

First they came for the communists . . .

On 19 March the State Trial to ban the Young Communist Movement in Czech Republic will make its verdict. This is an attack upon the popular youth movement to undermine one of the largest parties in the country, the Communist Party. It is also a direct assault upon democracy for all.

**First they came for the Communists,
but I was not a communist so I did not speak out.**

**Then they came for the Socialists and the Trade Unionists,
but I was neither, so I did not speak out.**

**Then they came for the Jews,
but I was not a Jew so I did not speak out.**

**And when they came for me, there was no one left to speak out
for me.**

Pastor Martin Niemöller



Connolly Youth supports the KSM!

➤ **Who are the KSM?**

The KSM, Komunistický svaz mládeže, are the young communist movement of Czech Republic. They are a popular youth movement with members and branches across the country. They are also importantly the youth movement of the Communist Party of Bohemia and Moravia, one of the largest parties in Czech. The KSM campaigns for peace, democracy and socialism.

➤ **Why are they being banned?**

They are being banned as a state-led assault upon the Communist Party. The state, not being able to ban the Party as it is elected to parliament, has chosen to undermine its support and future existence by banning their youth movement. This is also part of a broader attempt by the European Union and its subject states to discredit communist ideology and clamp down on workers movements.

➤ **How are they being banned?**

The Czech government recently brought in legislation making it unconstitutional to campaign for the abolition of private property as the dominant form of property ownership. This in essence makes it illegal to campaign for alternatives to capitalism.

➤ **Why do we support them?**

As young socialists the Connolly Youth Movement fights for democracy and socialism across the globe. KSM being our fraternal organization in the Czech Republic has our full support and solidarity. But moreover democrats everywhere should support them as history teaches us first the communists, but then it could be you.

**Support democracy!
Support the KSM**