

Germany is home to many members of the Labour Party, a number of whom are active within Labour International. Those in Berlin have formed a local branch and are able to meet in person on a local basis. But for many of us the distances between the cities and towns in which we live makes such meetings impossible on the basis of the time and travel costs involved. It is, however, especially in these times of uncertainty concerning our rights in an EU deprived of British involvement, important for us to be organised as a group, rather than simply existing as scattered individuals. Luckily Germany possesses a broadband network as widely dispersed as its LI members, and this provides us with the opportunity of taking part in virtual meetings. Yesterday evening (9<sup>th</sup> November) saw the inaugural meeting, organised by Steve Hudson of Köln, of LI members in Germany using ZOOM software. The meeting was called to consider the formation of an official German branch within Labour International, and was attended by an encouraging number of members, who were enthusiastic with this idea. Accordingly it was agreed to appoint officers and introduce branch rules following Labour Party guidelines, and when this is done to make a formal application to the Labour international Coordinating committee. It is intended to meet on a monthly basis using online technology. We wish to invite all members to such meetings, the dates of which will, of course, be announced in advance through e-mail and social media.

Stuart Fellows, Aachen, 10<sup>th</sup> November 2017-11-10