

Affiliation form continued

## Payment methods

Regular payments reduce our costs and can be cancelled by you at any time

**I wish to pay by standing order**

Your bank's name

Your bank's address

Postcode

Your account name

Sort code:    -    -

Account no.

Please pay Maternity Action £

annually starting on  /  /  until

further notice (Please date at least one month from now)

Signature

Date

Maternity Action account:

Cooperative Bank 089299 65280292

**I wish to pay by cheque**

I enclose a cheque to Maternity Action for £

# Maternity rights

a trade union issue

52-54 Featherstone Street, London EC1Y 8RT

**T:** 020 7253 2288

**E:** [info@maternityaction.org.uk](mailto:info@maternityaction.org.uk)

**W:** [www.maternityaction.org.uk](http://www.maternityaction.org.uk)

Company no. 6478568 Registered charity no. 1128776

Photos: [www.istockphoto.com](http://www.istockphoto.com)

Join the campaign to improve  
the lives of pregnant women,  
new mothers and their families

## Maternity rights under attack

Research in 2005 found that 30 000 women each year lost their jobs as a result of pregnancy discrimination. The figures have worsened during the economic downturn, with many pregnant women and new mothers unfairly selected for redundancies when employers downsize. We continue to face negative attitudes towards maternity at work – a Government survey found that 24% of men thought that women on maternity leave should be selected for redundancy first.

We are seeing an unprecedented attack on maternity leave and pay and on leave for fathers and partners. The business lobby is increasingly vocal about the supposed burden on business of providing leave to pregnant women and new parents. While there is Government rhetoric about the importance of supporting families, basic maternity rights are under threat.

Maternity Action campaigns at UK and European level to protect and improve maternity rights at work. We challenge attempts by the UK Government to reduce the maternity rights of different groups of workers. We actively support improvements to the EU Pregnant Workers Directive, which underpins maternity rights in the UK.

## Informing workers about their rights

Keeping up with the changes to maternity rights at work is a full time job. Maternity Action provides free, accessible, up to date information on the rights of pregnant women and new parents at work. From a summary of basic entitlements through to a detailed discussion of breastfeeding rights, Maternity Action information resources provide parents and their advocates with the guidance they need to avoid or resolve workplace disputes.

The most vulnerable workers face the hardest battles to assert their maternity rights at work. For many, language is a major barrier. Maternity Action has a programme of developing resources in languages other than English. Our Polish language information was downloaded more than 25 000 times in twelve months.

## Working with marginalised groups

Maternity Action works to improve the lives of pregnant women and new parents who are not in the workforce. We run projects to improve access to healthcare by refugee and asylum seeking mothers, and campaign for support for mothers who are left destitute.

**Support Maternity Action – affiliate your local, regional or national union to Maternity Action**



# Maternity Action Trade Union Affiliation Form

Please complete and return to:  
Maternity Action  
52-54 Featherstone Street  
London  
EC1Y 8RT

### I wish to affiliate my trade union branch to Maternity Action

- £60 pa (up to 30 000 members)
- £120 pa (30 001 to 100 000 members)
- £240 pa (100 001 to 200 000 members)
- £500 pa (200 001 or more members)

### I also wish to give a donation to Maternity Action's important work:

Amount £

Please turn over for methods of payment