



**In Memoriam - Professor Edward Webster,
Comrade Eddie**

March 29, 1942 – March 5, 2024

In honour of the inspiring life and enduring legacy of activist-scholar Eddie Webster, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung pays tribute to a remarkable individual whose passion for social justice and tireless dedication to transformative change have left an indelible mark on society. His loss is deeply felt by family, comrades, students, and all those whose lives he touched with his wisdom, compassion, humour, and firm commitment to the betterment of society.

At Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, Eddie was not only a valued partner and collaborator on labour issues in South Africa, on the African continent and globally, but he was a dear friend. His unwavering commitment to dialogue, inclusivity, and solidarity aligned with our mission to promote social democracy and advance the cause of social justice. Throughout his career, Eddie emphasized the importance of worker solidarity and collective action in achieving meaningful change. He worked to foster unity among workers from diverse backgrounds and sectors, recognizing the power of collective bargaining and mobilization in advancing the interests of the working class. Eddie embodied the very essence of activism. His tireless advocacy for the rights of workers, the marginalized, and the oppressed served as a guiding light in the pursuit of a more just and equitable world.

His legacy of empathy and activism will continue to inspire generations to come. Eddie's activism extended into the streets, where he stood shoulder to shoulder with the marginalized and disenfranchised, advocating for their rights and dignity. His courage, compassion, and unwavering determination served as an inspiration to us all.

As a scholar, educator, and mentor, Eddie's impact was profound. His innovative research and insightful analysis enriched our understanding of labour dynamics, social movements, and the complexities of democratization. Through his work, he empowered countless individuals to challenge the status quo and strive for a fairer society. He played a pivotal role in nurturing the next generation of leaders, instilling in them a sense of purpose and a commitment to social transformation.

As we reflect on Eddie's life, let us honour his memory by continuing the struggle for a world free from injustice, inequality, and oppression. In gratitude for his profound contributions and with deepest sympathy to his family, friends, and colleagues, we bid farewell to a beloved activist, scholar, and friend.

Your legacy will endure, and your spirit will guide us.

Rest in power, Eddie.