



RED HAT UNIONS AGAINST LAY OFFS

16/04/2026

We, **Red Hat EU unions** lend our support and friendship to our colleagues in China who were **brutally dismissed**.

We disagree with Red Hat's decision to dismantle the engineering team in China and the way it was handled. Our colleagues were treated like mere lines on a spreadsheet. Their dismissal was announced to them last thursday and they were **immediately cut** from any access to the infrastructure at 10 AM local time while their colleagues in Europe were asleep. Some of us woke up without a manager, without some of their colleagues, and without a chance to say goodbye and show our appreciation.

The internal communication was very corporate -- *read heartless* --, justifying it as a way to solidify our location strategy.

If it really was “*a way to solidify our location strategy*”, we wouldn't have laid off **few hundred of our colleagues** that suddenly, including some **high-profile experts** that Red Hat will have hard time replacing.

If it really was “*a way to solidify our location strategy*”, we wouldn't have **closed our engineering branch in China** right after a major reorganization that fused them more closely with international teams, **causing huge amounts of organisational problems** in its wake.

This was very likely a **request from the current US administration** or an attempt to please them that ended up in a soulless decision that impacted the lives of our colleagues, something that will deeply hurt our business in China, and our operations globally.

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