We won’t let anyone recuperate our revolt!¹

We have been in the streets every Saturday since 17 November [2018], and we Yellow Vests have shown our power and our determination, despite the flashballs,² the arrests, the teargases and the prison sentences. We have shown that we won’t allow ourselves be put to sleep by Macron’s announcements.

Last Saturday, the media told us that there was nobody, while there were still tens of thousands of us in the streets of the genteel neighborhoods of Paris. To the media, there was only the quenelle song³ at Montmartre⁴ and some motorcycle cops who were [supposedly] attacked without cause. Without getting caught up in the media’s racket, there are a few things that we, Yellow Vests, must address.

The quenelle belongs to the extreme Right. It recuperates our movement and we do not like it at all. It comes from Dieudonné, Le Pen’s buddy. It is a combination of the Nazi salute and a fist in the ass. And it does not resemble us or our gestures at all. Because, for us, those who are in charge are not the Jews, the Muslims or the immigrants. And it is not because of them that we have financial problems at the end of the month. They are not responsible for the social and ecological crises that we face.

France is a wealthy country. Those who are impoverishing it have no particular religion or skin color, but they know how to hide their money in tax havens. Since the beginning of this movement, the Yellow Vests have also included in their Saturday demonstrations in Paris young people from working-class neighborhoods, students from high schools and colleges, who have called for Macron’s resignation by forming blockades. And we want that to continue.

Do not give up to the police and the justice system those who are subjected to repression because they’ve wanted to resist the violence of the State and the system and who come from the [suburban] neighborhoods, the countryside and the town centers. Don’t let them divide us.

We were together on the first and eighth of December [2018]. Violence is not against the movement: speaking out, demonstrating aren’t enough, this will become known over time!

Let’s continue, let’s demonstrate that the Yellow Vests aren’t racist, sexist or homophobic. And let no one recuperate our revolt!

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² English in original.

³ A set of hand gestures invented in 2005 by a French anti-Semite named Dieudonné, who has called it a juvenile “anti-system” greeting.