

SOLIDARITY WITH ROJAVA

STATEMENT BY MAXINE PEAKE

*“A global blueprint for how to battle authoritarianism,
build equality and collective feminism —
now under threat.”*

In 2019 I was commissioned to write a radio play for BBC Radio 3 on the topic of protest. The year before I had read about the tragic death of Anna Campbell, a young *British* woman who lost her life in Syria fighting as part of the women's revolution in Rojava.

My research led me to meetings with members of the Kurdish community in Manchester and when I travelled to Diyarbakir in Turkey. I was awed by the strength and spirit of the people I met and the success of the women's revolution in Rojava. It is a global blueprint of how to battle authoritarianism, build equality and a strong, *robust collective feminism*.

But today that is all under threat. Rojava is currently under attack, and I am receiving reports from the people I connected with during that time that the city of Kobani — which turned the tide against ISIS — has had its water, internet and electricity supplies cut off. *People are running out of fuel, food and medicines in the deadly icy grip of winter.*

We have to act now before it's too late: to back calls for peace and stability in the region and prevent what will become a devastating humanitarian crisis. There is a distressing silence from the Western media. Please help by *amplifying these women's voices*.

WOMEN. LIFE. FREEDOM.

Maxine Peake

Maxine Peake is an award-winning British actor, writer and director whose work spans theatre, film, television and radio.