



Education International  
Internationale de l'Éducation  
Internacional de la Educación  
Bildungsinternationale



ETUCE – European Trade Union Committee for Education  
Education International - European Region

President  
Larry FLANAGAN

Vice-Presidents  
Odile CORDELIER  
Andreas KELLER  
Trudy KERPERIEN  
Dorte LANGE  
Galina MERKULOVA  
Branimir STRUKELJ

Treasurer  
Joan DONEGAN

European Director  
Susan FLOCKEN

#### ETUCE-CSEE

Boulevard Bischoffsheim 15  
1000 Brussels | BELGIUM  
secretariat@csee-etu.org  
+32 2 224 06 92

Brussels, 3 November 2021  
SF/10226

## TO:

Autonomous Union of Employees in Science and Research of Serbia, SSS-Serbia

Teachers Union of Serbia, TUS

## Solidarity with ETUCE member organisations in Serbia

Dear colleagues,

ETUCE representing 11 million members across Europe, expresses its vigorous support with its member organisations Teachers Union of Serbia (TUS) and Autonomous Union of Employees in Science and Research of Serbia (SSS-Serbia), Confederation of autonomous trade union of Serbia, as well as teachers and other education personnel and employees in the public sector in Serbia ahead of the protest action taking place tomorrow, on 4 November 2021.

We strongly share your dissatisfaction over the financial and social conditions of employees in public sector and together with you denounce the lack of social dialogue in Serbia.

Tomorrow, representatives from more than half of the public sector employees in Serbia will voice their justified demand for an increase of salaries of 15%, an allocation for daily meals and holiday bonus, as well as the allocations for all benefits as stipulated in the Collective Agreements. These steps are necessary in order to at least partially solve the persisting and critical injustice in the sector, stressing that an important number of public sector employees receive salaries that are equivalent to the minimum wage in the country. Further to this, the promised 9.4% increase of the country's minimum wage will jeopardise the wage system of coefficients and relations of salaries in the public sector.

Teachers, and other education personnel from 51 countries across Europe support your crucial demands to start effective and sustainable talks between the social partners in the public sector of Serbia and to address the issues regarding the public budget allocation with a view to put an end to the precarious situation of public sector employees.

Considering Serbia's EU accession process and the country's commitment to adhere to the key values and principles of the European Union, ETUCE reiterates that continuous involvement of social partners along with constructive and sustainable social dialogue lay the very foundation of successful policy-making processes and decision implementation. ETUCE recalls that the 8<sup>th</sup> key principle of the [European Pillar of Social Rights](#) proclaimed by the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission states that [...] "social partners shall be consulted on the design and implementation of economic, employment and social policies according to national practices" [...]. ETUCE believes that social partners in Serbia will listen to their counterparts and engage anew in the social dialogue work for the benefit of all public sector employees.

Wishing you the best of success in the upcoming protest action, once again ETUCE confirms its robust support to you.

In solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "S. Focher". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.