



ETUCE

European Trade Union Committee for Education EI European Region

Education International
Internationale de l'Education
Internacional de la Educaci3n
<http://www.ei-ie.org>

TO: Mr Branislav Pavlovic, President TUS
Dr Tomislav Zivanovic, President NTTU Nezavisnost

Brussels, 27 January 2011

EUROPEAN REGION- ETUCE

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President

Ronnie Smith

Vice-Presidents

Paul Bennett
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Ulrich Th3ne
Galina Merkoulova

Subject: ETUCE encouragement for teacher strike with a view to obtain a deserved pay rise

Dear Presidents,

The ETUCE has been informed of the collective decision of teacher unions in Serbia to start strikes in the education sector following failure of the last negotiations organised on 26 January with the Government including the Prime Minister, Minister of Finance and Minister of Education.

The commitment teachers and education personnel make every day to provide quality education is challenged by the short sight of some governments which cut in their education budgets thereby downgrading the quality of education. Poor working conditions and inadequate pay of teachers and academics also impacts students and future generations.

Teachers in Serbia face increased working hours, larger class sizes, low salary, pensions, and social benefits. Teachers and education personnel in Serbia work hard every day to provide students with the best possible education. They deserve to a pay rise.

ETUCE supports your stand that education is a human right and a public good, and it is the responsibility of all governments to provide all women and men, boys and girls, free quality public education delivered by well qualified and decently remunerated professionals. To withstand the direct impact of the economic crisis, education systems in Europe need more teachers and better school infrastructure, not cuts in the education budgets.

The ETUCE is closely monitoring the situation and remains at your disposal if it becomes necessary to undertake action at the international level. Please feel free to use this support message with your members, with the Serbian authorities and with the media.

In solidarity,

Martin R3mer

European Director



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