



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

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#### ETUCE-CSEE

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

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**To: Mr Marco Bonnici**, President of the Malta Union of Teachers  
([marco.bonnici@mut.org.mt](mailto:marco.bonnici@mut.org.mt); [records@mut.org.mt](mailto:records@mut.org.mt))

## Solidarity with the ETUCE member organisation MUT in Malta

Dear Marco,

The European Trade Union Committee for Education (ETUCE) represents 125 education trade unions and more than 11 million teachers and other education personnel in 51 countries across Europe. ETUCE is a Social Partner in education at EU level and a European Trade Union Federation within ETUC, the European Trade Union Confederation. ETUCE is the European Region of Education International, the global federation of education trade unions.

With this letter, ETUCE expresses its solidarity with MUT, the Malta Union of Teachers, for the strike on 27 November 2023.

ETUCE supports the Malta Union of Teachers (MUT) in their current industrial actions for improved financial packages for educators in State Schools and in Church Schools. MUT is acting upon the pledge of the Maltese Government to provide a significant pay rise and improved working conditions for educators. This pledge has not been fulfilled to date, prompting MUT to resort to industrial actions.

ETUCE supports its member organisation MUT as the representative trade union in the education sector speaking on behalf of educators in Malta, and its appeal for the unity of educators towards their collective gain.

ETUCE stands firmly behind MUT and its dedication to defending the rights and well-being of teachers and other education personnel, and the quality of education in Malta. Adequate public funding for education and training systems is essential in order for them to provide quality education to students, the future generation of Malta.

Together with its member organisation in Malta, ETUCE insists on the importance of increasing the salaries for all categories of employees in education. Indeed, decent salaries are fundamental for the teaching profession to become an attractive profession for highly qualified teaching professionals. All teachers and other education personnel should have the highest level of qualifications and be paid appropriately, i.e. no less



than the equivalent salary level of other professionals who have tertiary level qualifications.

ETUCE fully supports the effort of its member organisation MUT to make the teaching profession more attractive, in particular to address the shortage of teachers and stop the brain drain of young people from the profession. The education system in Malta urgently needs decision-makers to ensure higher salaries as well as better and more inclusive working conditions to attract and retain skilled and passionate teachers and other education personnel.

We remind of the crucial role and the position that recognised social partners have in the EU, as laid down in articles 154-155 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) and recognised in the recent European Commission Communication “Strengthening social dialogue in the European Union” [COM(2023) 40 final] and in the Council Recommendation on the same matter [023/0012(NLE)]. ETUCE supports Malta and insists on the correct implementation of principle no. 8 on social dialogue and involvement of workers of the European Pillar of Social Rights, in line with ILO Convention No. 144 and Recommendation No. 152 on Tripartite Consultation.

Ensuring a high-quality educational process requires energetic, creative and motivated teachers and other education personnel with employment stability, decent and competitive salary, and balanced workload. To achieve this, the government of Malta must engage in a meaningful social dialogue with education trade unions.

Wishing you success for your negotiations, we express once again ETUCE’s firm solidarity with MUT.

In solidarity,



Susan Flocken  
ETUCE European Director