



EPSU solidarity message to Lithuanian affiliates

Ref. JWG/RP/cb

Brussels, 9 September 2015

Re: Labour market reform in Lithuania

Dear Colleagues,

EPSU sends its solidarity greeting to its Lithuanian affiliates and all the trade unions that will be taking part in the protest action on 10 September. We fully agree that the proposed changes to the Lithuanian labour code amount to creating the conditions for “slavery at work”.

We see the “reforms” as reflecting the policies imposed by the Troika on countries like Greece that have so evidently failed to contribute to economic recovery. Indeed, rather than helping establish the basis for sustainable growth these kinds of measures simply create increasingly precarious employment conditions that undermine the possibility of stable economic recovery.

But more importantly for our members and their trade unions they undermine fundamental rights and leave them at the mercy of employers who want to hire and fire at will.

We have written to President Grybauskaitė, Prime Minister Butkevičius and Speaker Grauzinienė to express our serious concern about the labour code changes and will continue to raise this issue in whatever way you think will support your campaign.

We hope that your demonstration on 10 September is successful and gives the government cause to rethink its proposals. If not we will certainly lend our support to any further action you need to take to defend workers’ rights in Lithuania.

Yours in solidarity,

Jan Willem Goudriaan
EPSU General Secretary

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