

**Ms Beata Szydło**  
**Deputy Prime Minister of Poland**  
Al. Ujazdowskie 1/3  
00-583 Warsaw (Poland)

Brussels, 17 April 2019.

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**Support to WZZ "Solidarność Oświata" and its fight for better wages of teachers**

Dear Ms Beata Szydło, Deputy Prime Minister of Poland,

The European Confederation of Independent Trade Unions (CESI), representing more than 5 million workers throughout Europe, including several hundred thousand teachers, strongly support our member organisation WZZ "Solidarność Oświata" and its fight for better wages of their affiliates.

It appears that after months of negotiations with the national authorities, no agreement could be reached. As a consequence, the trade union members have informed us of their decision to go on strike at their working places (education institutes).

With great regret, we also note that despite recent requests by CESI and WZZ S-O to Ms Anna Zalewska, the government is not keen to open a constructive dialogue on decent wages and find real solutions to the situation of the teachers and workers in the education sector in Poland.

In support of their cause, CESI calls upon the Government of the Republic of Poland to stop this crisis from escalating and to start genuine negotiations with WZZ "Solidarność Oświata" and its partners so as to find ways to improve the working conditions and wages for the teachers and workers in the education sector.

Fair and decent work conditions are underlined in all international and European legally binding fundamental rights covenants. It goes without saying that our confederation is fully committed to supporting its members and their affiliates, especially when it comes to their fair and decent work conditions.

CESI strongly believes in public services as a vital backbone for stable societies and strongly considers investments in education as delivering clear economic and financial returns in the long term perspective.

For this reason, we kindly ask your commitment to finding a positive solution with the representatives of WZZ "Solidarność Oświata" and its partners on the situation of teachers and workers in the education sector.

With kindest regards,



**Klaus Heeger**  
**Secretary-General**  
**European Confederation of Independent Trade Unions**

Copy for information:

**1. Mr Michał Dworczyk**

Polish Secretary of State - Head of the Chancellery of the Council of Ministers

**2. Mr Andrzej Sadoś**

Permanent Representative of Poland to the EU

**3. Mr Adam Bodnar**

Polish Ombudsman

**4. Mr Sławomir Wittkowicz**

Chairman of the WZZ "Solidarność Oświata"