



LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE STRIKE IN GREECE ON 16TH JULY 2013

To Odysseas DRIVALAS
President ADEDY

Today in Greece citizens and workers are again in the streets demonstrating against the most cruel measures imposed by Troika that have failed in every corner of Europe.

These brutal measures have caused the most impressive crisis since the Second World War. The Troika expects Greek people to believe that the solution to the crisis is more unemployment, more poverty, more misery, deleting the welfare, eliminating public services, laying off workers, reducing salaries and pensions, and transforming in insecurity the collective and social rights won over a hundred years. In the recipe of the Troika, democracy it is just an obstacle to market economy.

The Greek government and the Troika officials from the European Commission, the European Central Bank and the International Monetary Fund made a last-minute agreement on a new package of spending cuts, job losses, and fiscal reforms in Greece in return for the bailout funds.

The Greek government's decision to lay off thousands of municipal workers, including a lot of local police represents a decline unmatched in modern democratic state. The intrusion of private security companies in the local public security is worrying and alarming, and its only interest is to get the highest benefit for private companies, regardless of the needs of the population .

In addition to this brutal measure, 25,000 employees and public employees are subject to labour mobility and will receive 75% of salary for 8 months. After this period they will be dismissed if it is considered that there is no place for them in any government agency or body.

After the massive general strike in Portugal on 27th June, after the protest in Cyprus, Spain, Italy, and France we need to continue expressing our strong solidarity with ADEDY, GSEE, and the Greek people. But also we need to strongly coordinate our actions the Mediterranean and across Europe, through the EPSU and the ETUC.

There have been authorized voices within the IMF and the European Commission

speaking out against austerity and its horrible consequences for recovery. Greece has been the unlucky laboratory that has demonstrated that the austerity policies have brought more depression, more recession, and horrible consequences for the population. After several years of obsolete, strongly liberal policies, Greece is further away from the way out; its welfare state a shadow of what it should be in any European country, its democracy is at stake, and several generations of its citizens forced to leave the country that educated them not to starve.

Dear sisters and brothers from Greece: your sisters and brothers of FP-CGIL, FSC-CCOO and FSP-UGT stands by your side in your struggle. Our countries have also been targeted and austerity measure have also brought to us recession, unemployment, and weakening of our democratic systems. The affiliates from FSC-CCOO, FSP-UGT, and FP-CGIL-have suffered massive wage and rights cuts, while the citizens have seen how their schools, hospitals, public libraries, grants, security, pensions, benefits, etc. are being closed or dramatically cut.

The undermining of social dialogue and the impoverishing of the working conditions of public employees works against protecting quality public services that are vital to protect the most vulnerable members of our societies. Without better, fairer policies, focusing on job creation and growth it will be impossible to get out of this everlasting crisis.

Dear sisters and brothers from Greece, be sure that throughout your fight you will always enjoy the unconditional support of all your colleagues and workers from FSP-UGT, FP-CGIL, and FSC-CCOO.

In solidarity

Julio Lacuerda
General Secretary FSP UGT

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the initials 'JL' enclosed within a large, loopy oval shape.