

Geneva, 19 October 2020

To IndustriALL Global Union affiliates in Ukraine

IndustriALL Global Union in solidarity with its affiliates in Ukraine in this time of Covid-19

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

I write to you on behalf of [IndustriALL Global Union](https://www.industrial-union.org), which represents more than fifty million workers in mining, energy and manufacturing industries in 140 countries worldwide, to express our solidarity with the workers and people in Ukraine at this time of Covid-19. We are very sorry to hear that as of today there are 5,673 deaths, and 303,638 confirmed cases.

We wish to commend the great sacrifice and enormous contribution that workers, in particular those in essential industries, are making to ensure basic services to the population, helping to stop the transmission of the coronavirus, and caring for people who have COVID-19.

We call on the government in Ukraine to adopt and implement the necessary health, economic and social policies to assist workers and enterprises to guarantee the livelihood of workers and their families as well as the sustainability of the workplaces. Health of our members have foremost importance and making workplaces safe is a priority ahead of any other consideration.

Furthermore, we urge the government in Ukraine to ensure that state officials do not to use COVID-19 restrictions to undermine the legal and practical base for social dialogue, and to direct their efforts instead to preserve the freedoms and guarantees of workers and prevent violations of the ILO conventions and other international norms, which have been ratified by Ukraine.

IndustriALL Global Union continues to fully support you in your current efforts to achieve the common objectives aimed at containing the virus, guaranteeing essential activities for the community and, first and foremost, ensuring the safety and health of those workers in the front line.

In saving lives and livelihoods, it is imperative that unions participate--along with government officials, including public health specialists, and employers' organizations—in the discussions to develop exit strategies while ensuring the health and safety of those workers returning progressively to their workplaces, while also avoiding new outbreaks.

We believe that the determination and commitment the international community is showing to deal with this pandemic, which is underpinned by a spirit of solidarity, gives us hope that the same resolve will be used to tackle inequality and climate change.

In solidarity,



Valter Sanches
General Secretary