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The National Trade Union of Prisons' Workers SNLP

SNLP supports prison officers on hunger strike in Greece

(11 April 2012) **The National Trade Union of Prisons' Workers SNLP** (affiliated to the **Federation of Trade Unions from Public Administration PUBLISIND**, affiliated forth to the **European Federation of Public Service Unions EPSU**) represents the majority of workers from the Romanian penitentiary system and its urge to fight for its members' rights never stops.

We express our support to the 11 members of the Executive of the Federation of Correctional Personnel Unions in Greece OSYE (member of ADEDY confederation), who unleashed a hunger strike from the 7th to 13th of April.

It's the first time when this method of protest is being adopted by OSYE and this is unacceptable, because the hunger strike is a form of protest of a desperate person, who reached the limit of patience and endurance. The protester decides to voluntarily starve, hoping that his gesture will sensitize authorities.

We totally support the protest's claims because the workers live half a life in prison, not to serve any punishment. The prison conditions confounds with working conditions, and their sacrifice represents national security!

Through the hunger strike initiated by the Greeks, but also through any other protest movements in many other countries from Europe, it's a call for the Government to stop the destruction of the prison system and to apply the European rules also for the staff, not only for prisoners.

A prison worker always confronts with risks of physical and verbal threats, threats that are treated by overcrowding prisons, dismissing staff, not paying overtime hours, cutting wages, not respecting human rights, showing indifference to staff's security, not granting risk damages and all the other legislative changes in the employee's disadvantage.

THIS IS A CALL TO RELEASE THE PRISONS' WORKERS, THEY WORK THEY DON'T SERVE ANY SENTENCE.

We fully support OSYE's actions and we hope that they'll finally receive their rights, because they don't ask for benefits, they ask for JUSTICE!

In solidarity,

President of SNLP/ FSAP PUBLISIND
Stefan Teoroc

