FIRST INFORMATIONS ON THE GENERAL STRIKE OF THE 14TH OF NOVEMBER IN SPAIN

The general secretaries of the Spanish trade unions CCOO, UGT and USO have reported in a press conference held around midday on the development of the general strike. They have all agreed on the fact that the adherence to the strike is been massive, and therefore they have declared the general strike as a great success.

In the first hours of the morning, the data on the nightshifts indicated an adherence to the general strike of around 80%. During the day, the data on participation in the private sector have also been very positive: the strike has been followed by over 90% in the sectors of industry and transports (with only the minimum services operating in the latter). In the public sector, 62% of the workers of the public administrations, 56% in the healthcare and 75% of the teachers have adhered to the strike.

Ignacio Fernández Toxo, general secretary of CCOO has mentioned with special gratitude the participation of those workers who, despite the situation of the Spanish economy, have decided to participate in the strike. He has recalled that unemployment affects already nearly 6 million people – a figure that shows how ineffective the austerity policies have been to solve Spain’s situation. The general strike is a clear sign form the sign of the citizens that the government has to change its course.

But beyond the national dimension, the general secretaries of UGT, CCOO and USO have underlined the transnational character of the action. “This strike is a historic landmark: it is the first Iberian strike, and it is being a total strike”, asserted Toxo, who also congratulated his fellow colleagues in Portugal, Italy, Greece and “in all European countries who are participating through different activities in this European day of action” called by the European Trade Union Confederation ETUC.

In the course of the afternoon there will be mass demonstrations throughout Spain, which will also give a chance to the citizens to show their clear rejection of the policies that are being dictated from the European Institutions and that only worsen the situation in Spain and many other countries.

You can find more information and data under www.ccoo.es