



## School children and students Climate Strike 15 March

### EPSU solidarity declaration

*Adopted at the EPSU Executive Committee 12 March 2019*

Europe's public service trade unions support the strike for the climate of schoolchildren and students on 15 March 2019. We stand with them in seeing the urgency of the crisis and the need for substantial and immediate measures to limit global warming.

This is a real wake-up call to all of us. EPSU agrees that global warming and climate change are the biggest threat to current and future generations. Far more needs to be done, particularly by governments and companies but all of us must act.

Many of us will not be around in 30-40 years' time to experience a world without ice caps and glaciers and the devastation that could be caused by inaction today.

The climate strikers are right. We have to take the science seriously and to work at least on the basis of the 1.5 degree global warming scenario of the Paris Climate Agreement. The worry is that the current national commitments of many governments don't even go this far.

We share the concerns that:

- the younger generation will be burdened with most of the costs if no further and more immediate actions are taken now by the older generations, shouldering more of the costs (and the implications for life styles etc.); and
- our economic system, focused on profit maximisation and unrestrained economic growth is part of the problem.

We have worked with employers and many other organisations to advocate for stronger measures. Our jobs depend on our planet. EPSU stresses that the interests of workers, low-income households and developing countries must be taken into account.

We support that Just transition and Climate Justice are part and parcel of national, European and global policies. We call for increased public investment in renewables and in public, collective solutions. We are convinced this will create jobs now and for the future.

The young strikers have succeeded in getting climate change and the need for urgent action high on the agenda.

We wish them further success and hope for massive support for their action on 15 March.

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