Dear Commission President Mr. Juncker, dear EU High Representative Mrs. Mogherini,

Dear President Poroshenko, dear Minister of Foreign Affairs,

The European Federation of Public Service Unions and its Ukrainian members welcome the ongoing discussions between the EU and the Ukraine. The 20th summit taking place 9th July is an excellent opportunity to take stock of the progress that is made to ensure the Association Agreement and the Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Agreement deliver for workers and people. Alas progress in strengthening democracy, building an effective social dialogue with the unions and reinforcing workers’ rights and investment in public services and workers leaves much to be desired.

Please find therefore a joint statement that asks you to focus on making progress so the relationship contributes to improving the social and economic situation of workers and people. Central to our concerns is that trade union rights are respected and that the unions should be consulted when proposals for reforms are made.

However unions are under many attacks and trade union rights are at risks according to the global trade union rights index. Several cases of violations are before the ILO. The social dialogue does not function. Ukrainian authorities appear engaged in a concerted action to take away trade union properties thus harming the unions. Tugs have tried to disrupt union meetings but the perpetrators are not brought to justice.
We ask you to address our concerns and we look forward to see those reflected in the outcomes and subsequent actions arising from the Summit. In this regard we wish you a successful summit.

Yours sincerely,

Jan Willem Goudriaan
EPSU General Secretary

CC. : Members of the EU-Ukraine parliamentary delegation
EU Ambassador to Ukraine Hugues MINGARELLI
(delegation-ukraine@eeas.europa.eu; delegation-ukraine-press@eeas.europa.eu)
Cabinet of Ministry of Ukraine (zmi@kmu.gov.ua)