



V. Groysman
Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine

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Dear Mr Groysman,

EPSU is concerned about proposals to intervene in the work of the trade unions. A proposal for amendments to the Law of Ukraine 'On Trade Unions, their Rights and Guarantees of Activity' has been introduced in the Verkhovna. (reg. No. 3474 of 11/13/2015) by the People's Deputies of Ukraine I. Markevych, A. Riabchyn, S. Zalishchuk, I. Klympush-Tsyntsadze, and S. Leshchenko.

These amendments have the intention to weaken and undermine the trade unions. They contravene many laws and international obligations. (see the background document attached) They have an influence on the reputation of the Ukraine. This is not helpful as some EU Member States like the Netherlands have to decide on approving the agreement between the EU and Ukraine on the DCFTA. People might not have a positive attitude if union rights are questioned.

According to the Global Trade Union Rights Index there are already no guarantees of Trade union rights in the Ukraine. The Ukraine is among the countries such as Bangladesh, Cambodia, Colombia, Guatemala, Iran, Greece where trade union rights are least respected.

The European public sector trade unions see amending the Law 'On Trade Unions, their Rights and Guarantees of Activity' by the above deputies as an attempt to curb the trade unions of Ukraine. Weakening the voice of workers will shift the balance of power. The burden of adjustment will be unfairly borne by citizens.

The amendments should not be adopted and they should be withdrawn. We ask you to respect the views of the trade unions. If proceedings do continue, technical comments should be sought from the ILO. And full consultation of the trade unions should be undertaken

We look forward to hear from you.

Jan Willem Goudriaan
EPSU General Secretary

Encl. : Background paper

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