

STELLVERTRETENDER VORSITZENDER

GEW-Hauptvorstand || Postfach 90 04 09 || D-60444 Frankfurt am Main

30. Oktober 2024

AK/AV

Tel.: 069/78973-314

Fax: 069/78973-103

E-Mail: andreas.keller@gew.de

Solidarity Message to FLC CGIL

Dear colleagues and friends,

On behalf of the German education union GEW, we extend our strongest support and solidarity for your full-day strike on October 31, 2024. Your fight against casualization, for fair pay, and for stable, secure working conditions resonates deeply with educators across Europe.

The precarious working conditions you describe, with nearly a quarter of a million education staff in Italy employed on a casual basis annually, present an urgent issue that demands attention and action. The situation is exacerbated by low wages across the sector, with Italian teachers and education professionals ranking among the lowest-paid in Europe, according to OECD data. Your call for an above-inflation pay increase of 400 euros per month reflects the need for compensation that respects the value of the work that education professionals contribute to society.

We share your concern that the current policies proposed by the Ministry of Education and Merit – offering only 135 euros gross on average, spread over two years – fall far short of what is needed to stabilize the sector. Furthermore, austerity measures affecting researchers, public services, and the potential regionalization of education and research threaten to increase inequalities and risk excluding vulnerable communities. These issues stand in direct opposition to our collective belief in equitable, high-quality public education for all.

The call of FLC CGIL **#GoPublic! #FundEducation!** – echoing Education International's global campaign – highlights the urgency of increasing government investment in public education, especially to guarantee stable, fair employment for all knowledge workers. We stand with you in demanding the withdrawal of policies that push toward regionalization, in support of social dialogue, and for a collective bargaining system that respects the voices of educators and staff across the sector.

Please know that we at GEW fully support your demands and applaud your courageous efforts. As we continue our common fight for the dignity and rights of all workers in education, we hope that your strike inspires change, setting an example for all of Europe.

In solidarity,



Dr Andreas Keller
Vice-President