

Ankara 22 January 2025

Thank you for the invitation to the 30th anniversary of Eğitim Sen. It's a pleasure to meet you today: your work, your sacrifice is an example for all the trade unions all over the world!

The FLC CGIL thinks it is important at a time like this for our organization to renew our commitment to a global mobilization of education international for the enhancement of schools and all those who work in them.

The national, European and international context, which has been conditioned by austerity policies in the last fifteen years, left a sharp reduction in spending on education.

The right to education, together with peace and democracy, are under attack all over the world. The idea of profit as a measure of the economic choices of governments has led to the fundamental rights of citizens being pushed aside. The right to education is one of them.

We came out of a pandemic that has exposed deep gaps in access to rights, starting with fundamental ones, such as health or education. The capitalist economic model failed in the face of great emergencies and the extraordinary. An economic model that opened gaps and increased social and economic inequalities.

Moreover, at this stage at least in Italy we see a progressive process of privatization of the right to education. A temptation always presents in right-wing governments.

So, we need more investment in education and more investment in valuing teachers. The existence of the younger generations today is traversed by processes and phenomena that can also take on shocking manifestations, in terms of violence and degradation. It is necessary the prevention of logics and behaviors of violence, of overpowering, of human and civil degradation, of xenophobia. It is the important, the high function of our work.

For this reason, as FLC CGIL we strongly support the International Educational campaign, Go public! Fund education! and the ETUCE Campaign #MakeTeachingAttractive. We, together, ask to all governments and the international community to increase public funding for the quality of the teaching profession and all education staff. These are claims present within the CGIL general strike of last November in Italy.

However, I believe it is essential that education unions can carry out joint actions to demand these policies, starting with the global campaign of Education International.

FLC CGIL considers the international trade union path to be central because there is an increasing connection of the political choices made by national governments. Our commitment is aimed at a collective mobilization, a common commitment that can really change the present and above all the future, always against all fascism, together. Solidarity!