



Statement of Support for the Independent Trade Union of Serbia (CATUS)

We express our full support for the Independent Trade Union of Serbia (CATUS) and the demands presented to the Government of Serbia on 13 November 2025. These demands are legitimate, well-founded, and essential for safeguarding workers' rights and ensuring socially sustainable development in the country.

We call on the Government of Serbia to immediately:

1. Initiate a constructive dialogue with the trade unions on minimum wages and wage policy in the public sector.
2. Engage in negotiations to secure wage increases that reflect actual living costs and are not used as political instruments.
3. Ensure that collective agreements are introduced and respected in all sectors.
4. Raise public-sector wages to a level that guarantees a dignified standard of living and restores lost purchasing power.
5. Guarantee the timely payment of wages and compensate employees who have suffered delays.
6. End arbitrary dismissals and ensure full compliance with laws and regulations governing employment security.

7. Initiate without delay negotiations on collective agreements across the entire public sector.

We share CATUS's assessment that the lack of respect for existing laws and regulations has severely weakened the position of workers. The state has a responsibility to act as a guarantor of workers' rights.

We urge the Government of Serbia to meet these demands within the timeframe specified by the union, in order to prevent further escalation of the conflict and to ensure stability, legal certainty, and effective social dialogue in Serbia.

We stand in solidarity with CATUS in their efforts to defend the rights of workers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Åsa Törnblom', with a stylized, flowing script.

Åsa Törnblom, International Secretary, LO Sweden

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Oscar Ernerot', with a stylized, flowing script.

Oscar Ernerot, General Secretary, Olof Palme International Center

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Robert Ekstrand', with a stylized, flowing script.

Robert Ekstrand, Managing Director/ Principal, Runo Folk High School and Center for Development