



Education International  
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**ETUCE – European Trade Union Committee for Education**  
Education International - European Region

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**TO:**

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## **Solidarity with the Education, Science and Culture Trade Union of Slovenia (ESTUS – SVIZ), ETUCE Member Organisation**

Dear Prime Minister,  
Dear Minister,

The European Trade Union Committee for Education (ETUCE) represents 127 Education Trade Unions and 11 million education personnel in 51 countries across Europe. ETUCE is a Social Partner in education at EU level and a European Trade Union Federation within ETUC, the European Trade Union Confederation. ETUCE is the European Region of Education International, the global federation of education trade unions.

On 9 March 2022, teachers and other education personnel will raise their voice to restore dignity for the professions in the education sector and against the Slovenian government's disrespectful and ignorant attitude towards workers.



Over the last five years salaries of professionals in education and training have increased slower in comparison to other public sector workers. With the current salary increases in health care, existing pay ratios have been disrupted to the detriment of teachers and other education personnel.

Such unfair practices should be stopped. Together with our member organisation, the Education, Science and Culture Trade Union of Slovenia (ESTUS), we demand that the Slovenian government representatives reinstate the appropriate ratios between comparable jobs, which it has obviously destroyed through unilateral decision-making and once again to the detriment of the education and training employees.

While unwaveringly advocating for the dignity and recognition of the crucial work teachers and other education personnel do daily and regardless of circumstances, together with ESTUS ETUCE demands:

- immediate conclusion of an agreement on the payment of increased teachers' workload (work performance due to increased volume of work, increased weekly pedagogical obligations, payment of overtime work and other additional burdens on teachers and other education personnel) and appropriate evaluation of teachers and other education personnel's exposure to risks and dangers in connection with the COVID-19 virus.
- immediate increase in salaries in the education sector and in accordance with already agreed salary increases in other employee groups of the public sector.
- put an end to the violation of Article 3 of the Annex to the Collective Agreement for the Activity of Education in the Republic of Slovenia (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia, No. 56/02).
- immediate increase of salaries in the lower third salary scale grade in the education sector in accordance with the Agreement on the abolishment of austerity measures in relation to, among other things, reimbursements, and payments of other public benefits to employees in the education sector (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia, No. 88/21).
- immediate adjustment of the salary scales with inflation rates in accordance with Agreements on salaries and other labour costs in the public sector (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia, No. 80/18).
- immediate introduction of a new, fourth title of professional workers in the education sector (senior councillor) in accordance with the Agreement for the implementation of point V of the Strike Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Slovenia and ESTUS (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia, No. 3/20).
- immediate start of the work on ESTUS' proposal in relation to amendments of norms and standards in the education, which were submitted to the Ministry of Education, Education and Sport on 23 December 2021.
- strict adherence to the Agreement on Salaries and Other Labour Costs in the Public sector (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia, No. 80/18).

ETUCE urges the government representatives of the Republic of Slovenia to engage in a respectful dialogue and stop ignoring the legitimate demands of teachers and other education personnel in Slovenia. We strongly believe that government representatives should seek for establishing continuous dialogue and creating a sustainable climate of trust with social partners to foster democratic, united, and cohesive societies. It is high time to listen to teachers and no longer ignore their needs. We demand respect for the teaching profession and social dialogue in the education sector in Slovenia.

In solidarity,



Susan Flocken  
ETUCE European Director

