

19 December 2016

Ref.: 2016-737/01-36 Subject: Call for support and solidarity

Dear colleagues,

After the failed coup-attempt on July 15, 2016, under the emergency decree law and statutory decrees tens of thousands public employees without any investigation launched against them have been dismissed unlawfully. More than 2000 of these dismissed public employees are the members of KESK affiliated trade unions.

In order to voice our demand for reinstatement of our dismissed friends, withdrawal of the statutory decrees and an end to the unlawful practices under the state of emergency, on December 21, 2016, as KESK we will start a march (it will be a long walk) from Istanbul to Ankara (approximately 450 km road) which will be without support of cars. Dismissed members of KESK and executive board members of both KESK and its affiliates will attend the march. This walk is planned to last 8-10 days and will be ended in Ankara. There will be a massive demonstration in Ankara at the end of the march.

Raising international public awareness regarding the situation of public employees in Turkey and informing international public opinion about our demands, and international worker solidarity will strengthen us. Within this scope, we are asking you to organize supportive acts and campaigns.

An action day has been designated for 21 December 2016 and we need support of the international trade union movement. You can do three things to support dismissed members of KESK and back up the march:

- 1. You can take a selfie or photos with solidarity banners and post and share them through social media by adding @kesk1995 and with the hashtag #21AralıkEmekçiYürüyüşü from today on till the end of December 21, 2016.
- 2. You can post and share solidarity and support messages through twitter by mentioning @kesk1995.
- 3. You can organize a solidarity action to support and be in solidarity with us on 21 December 2016 when we will start our walk and inform us about the action you do by posting and sharing the information about your action, or by broadcasting short videos and/or photos of your actions to back up our march via twitter and again mentioning @kesk1995. You can also send information and photos regarding your action to the KESK's e-mail address (kesk@kesk.org.tr).
- 4. And/or you can plan any other supportive act in accordance with your decision for the 21st of December.

Please note that the official twitter account of KESK is <u>https://twitter.com/KESK1995</u> and official facebook account is <u>https://www.facebook.com/kesk.org.tr</u>.

A short video regarding our march can be downloaded via <u>https://goo.gl/NXLeMx</u>. Please also find attached banners (8 jpeg files) regarding our march, you can also use these banners in your actions.

Thank you in advance for your support.

Yours in solidarity,

Şaziye Köse Co-President

Lami Özgen President $\boldsymbol{\nu}$ pell

Selanik Caddesi 44/1 Kızılay-ANKARA • Tel: 0.312 436 71 11 • Faks: 0.312 436 74 70