Working group 2:

How can international solidarity help national causes? How can events like World Teachers’ Day contribute to national communication efforts?

1. International Solidarity

* Unions must leave space for international and solidarity issues in their magazines, their communication means, passing on the passion for global issues.
* EI could design curriculum at national level on human and trade union rights at global level, for use at national level. Here there’s possibly a link to 10Global.
* Spreading stories relevant for teachers’ professional life.
* Infographics requested.
* A letter from EI GS/President to the country’s authorities helps a lot.
* A petition letter work too. One sample letter for signature to be sent to EI affiliates is easier, especially in terms of language.
* Designing a ‘Be a teacher in another country’ campaign. Via this campaign, a teacher can click and randomly learn more about the living and working conditions of a teacher in another country in another region of the world.
* Presence of international, regional education leaders in a given country to support a teacher or a union.

1. World Teachers’ Day

* No action as such on WTD, but highlight (an)other action(s) around the globe.

Create a bound with teachers worldwide.

* WTD theme should be known in advance , to be able to work on it. Press release with theme, and sub-themes is useful. Need for EI guidance, mentioning the key focus points for WTD.

WTD key messages to be sent out to affiliates 3 months in advance.

* Sending out an EI GS message, in writing and in video, addressing current global education.
* Selecting a targeted country and build stories/messages. A case study/case studies should be available and interviews focusing on it/them ready.
* Highlighting quotes of teachers worldwide, linked to WTD theme. “We are teachers”.

Using ComNet to get these quotes and sending them to ComNet members by 1st June.

* Education unions must (re)take ownership of WTD.

Problem is, Ministries are sometimes highjacking the day, and do the speeches, not the unions.

* A WTD platform however is good, but it should be composed of 80% unions and 20% education stakeholders (ministers, president, government, etc.).
* In Ireland, unions must approach the teaching councils, and are sick of retweeting councils’ tweets! The EI message should be forwarded and spread instead!