



Promoting Public Sector Education in an Age of Austerity

Resolution: Hungarian Teachers Trade Unions preparing for Strike

Submitted for adoption by the SEH and PDSZ (Hungary) to the ETUCE Conference, the Regional Conference of Education International, meeting in Budapest on 26-28 November 2012, adopted on 27 November 2012

The ETUCE Conference:

Noting that education workers' trade unions in Hungary want the government to give a firm commitment to a responsible restructuring of the public education system which will impact not only on students, parents and teachers but the future of Hungarian society as a whole;

Noting that the Hungarian government is duty bound to consult with teachers' unions before forcing through a root-and-branch reorganization of the public education system. It is unacceptable for the interests of a small coterie of political and economic insiders to come before those of public education workers;

Noting that education workers' unions in Hungary take issue with the misguided economic decisions because the cost of restructuring will assuredly be paid by education sector employees whose jobs are cut and teachers who are increasingly overworked;

Noting that a change to the public sector pay scale in Hungary is needed and teaching unions are calling for pay to rise to cover at least the inflation with effect from 1 January 2013;

The ETUCE Conference supports SEH's and PDSZ's demand for the government to shelve the attempts to drive through a restructuring of public education in the sole interests of the powers-that-be heedless of the country's economic situation and the lack of a legal or financial framework for reorganization;

The ETUCE Conference also supports the preparations for the strike which it regards as fully justified and expresses its solidarity with the EI member organisations in Hungary.