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Rossana Dettori  
General Secretary  
FP-CGIL

London, 1<sup>st</sup> September 2011

Dear Rossana,

On behalf of UNISON I would like to send this message of solidarity and support to the Public Services Federation of CGIL, and to the CGIL as a whole, ahead of the General Strike in Italy on 6 September.

The peoples of Britain, Italy and the European Union are living through a financial and economic crisis that is not of their making. As a result of the austerity policies that are being promoted by our national governments and the European Commission they are now being asked to pay for this crisis through attacks on their wages and terms and conditions, job losses and major cuts to public services.

However, these austerity measures are not working and have resulted in a vicious circle of low or negative economic growth that in turn has failed to reduce government deficits or has even widened them. The European trade union movement has rightly argued that Europe can only confront the crisis through a policy of economic growth to cut government budget deficits.

On behalf of UNISON I hope that your actions on 6 September will be successful and will form part of the wider protests that have taken place, and will continue to do so, across Europe until national governments and the European Union change their policies.

Yours fraternally,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dave Prentis". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Dave Prentis  
General Secretary

