

To CGIL FP
To CGIL FILCTEM
To all Italian affiliates

Ref.: JWG/cb

Brussels, 11 October 2021

Dear Serena, dear Marco, Dear Comrades,

EPSU expresses its full solidarity and support to CGIL and the Italian trade unions following the attack by the right-wing extremists on the headquarters of the CGIL Saturday 9 October. Time and again, the extreme-right and fascist parties and groups attack unionists as our values and our support for democracy are completely the opposite of what these groups stand for. The anti- or no-vax protests have been used by these groups to turn some people against the unions to serve their agenda.

The demolition and destruction were directed against CGIL but it is an attack on us all and we support your national demonstration Saturday 16 October.

Fascism must never prevail again. EPSU's Congress in 2019 was very clear

"These values are under threat from a range of reactionary, xenophobic and nationalist forces whose growth has been fed by national and international policies that are more about markets and profit-making and say nothing about workers' and citizens' rights and well-being. EPSU fights against all forms of anti-democratic, fascist and nationalist movements. In response, it is all the more important that public service trade unions work together to vigorously restate the need for solidarity and fairness in the face of the damaging effects, both social and economic, of increasing inequalities. Our vision of an alternative Europe, with public services at its core, must be a real alternative to the current system. With its narrow focus on markets and profits, this prioritises privatisation and liberalisation over the public spending and investment needed to deliver high levels of welfare and quality employment."

Please count on the European trade union movement's support in your struggle for democracy and social justice.

In Solidarity,

Jan Willem Goudriaan EPSU General Secretary