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Mauro Giulianella
Il Coordinatore Nazionale
FP CGIL VV.F.
Via Leopoldo Serra
31 - 00153
Roma

Dear Mauro

Many thanks for your letter of 13 September passing on the congratulations of the National Coordination of the FP CGIL Firefighters on the awards received by the FBU at the TUC recently.

I would also like to thank you for your message of support as we prepare to ballot our members to take industrial action over our battle for a fair wage, following the utterly inadequate pay offer received this year in the face of the emerging cost of living crisis on top of the fall in real wages after 12 years of government-imposed austerity and pay policy.

I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of all members of the Fire Brigades Union, to pass on our own message of support to you and your members in your ongoing fight for more recruits and better health protection for firefighters. A battle firefighters should never have to face and we stand united with you in your fight.

We have watched the results of the Italian election with grave concern as it now looks certain that a far right coalition will govern in Italy. Working people will face attacks on their rights and freedoms and we suspect trade unions will be specifically targeted. We offer you our full support and solidarity in what will be testing and challenging times for activists and trade unionists in the coming months. We know your union and its members have a great history of resistance and we stand ready to assist you in any way you seek.

If there is anything further the FBU can do in order to show our solidarity, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours in Unity

Matt Wrack
General Secretary