



Public Services International
Internationale des Services Publics
Internacional de Servicios Públicos
Internationale der Öffentlichen Dienste
Internationell Facklig Organisation för Offentliga Tjänster
国際公務労連

45, avenue Voltaire, BP 9 • Tel.: +33 450 40 64 64
01211 Ferney-Voltaire Cedex • Fax: +33 450 40 50 94
France • www.world-psi.org

President-Elect Ms Park Guen-Hye
Minister of Labour
Minister of Security and Public Administration
Seoul
Republic of South Korea

Email : president@president.go.kr
foreign@president.go.kr

File Reference: RP/SV/CHM
Contact Name: Rights@world-psi.org
29 July 2013

President Park Guen-hye,

Recognize the KGEU NOW!!!

PSI represents more than 20 million public sector workers around the world. We strongly support the Korean Government Employees' Union and their demand for recognition, and the numerous actions that they have organized in the last years. At the International Labour Conference, PSI spoke out on the violations of trade union rights in Korea – both at the Committee on the Application of Standards and in other committees.

Our Korean affiliates are receiving daily support from fellow trade unionists in countries that include Korea's main trade partners: Japan, Australia, the United States, the European Union and elsewhere.

We know that more intense negotiations between your government and the KGEU have been taking place in recent weeks, and applaud the progress that has been made. However, we are appalled that at the last minute – once again – you fail to honour the commitments made. Until today – the KGEU has not been recognized.

We urge your government to respect the recommendations of the ILO, to legalize the KGEU, normalize social dialogue, ensure freedom of association and to stop abusing the powers vested in the Ministry of Labour and the Ministry of Security and Public Administration. As a member of the OECD, Korea is also bound to respect international labour standards.

Recognition is but a first step that will lead to real social dialogue for government employees in Korea. Do not linger any longer and recognize the KGEU without further delay.

The public at large is aware of the disgraceful treatment of trade unionists in your country, the lack of respect for international standards and how hundreds of workers lose their jobs because they choose to exercise their rights and belong to unions.

Public Services International is a global trade union federation representing 20 million working women and men who deliver vital public services in 150 countries. PSI champions human rights, advocates for social justice and promotes universal access to quality public services. PSI works with the United Nations system and in partnership with labour, civil society and other organisations.

This campaign will continue until workers' rights are respected in Korea. The world is watching. We look forward to you and your government responding positively to this call for immediate fair treatment and recognition of union workers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Rosa Pavanelli". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "R" and a long, sweeping underline.

Rosa Pavanelli
General Secretary