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REF. JWG/MB

Brussels, 22 December 2014

Subject: **Letter for Mr. ŞAHİN KARASAR**

Dear Chancellor, dear Mr. ŞAHİN KARASAR,

We have been informed that you have dismissed 98 workers for being a member of a trade union in the Hospital of Maltepe University, 6 December 2014. These workers have started a picket to demand re-instatement. EPSU, the European Federation of Public Service Unions and Europe's largest trade union federation supports the demands of DİSK/Dev Sağlık-İş. EPSU represents 8 million workers in all European countries and is a recognized European social partner.

The workers joined the union to seek to improve their working conditions in the hospital. These were getting worse for them and the hospital workers joined DİSK/Dev Sağlık-İş. Workers demand higher wages, promised for several years and shorter working hours. Several of the sacked workers were working in the hospital for more than 10 years and received several awards. There are disabled workers as well as couples among them leaving families without income.

We understand that you are planning to hire contractors to replace dismissed workers. The disrespectful treatment of the workers will tarnish the reputation of the hospital.

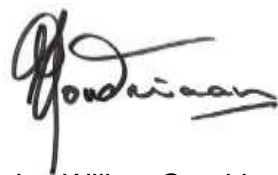
You will understand that dismissing workers for being a member of a union is a violation of Turkish, European and international obligations of Turkey. Replacing them by contract-workers is equally a violation of ILO standards. I hope you realize that such practices continue to be a sign that Turkey might not be ready to join the European Union and will seriously effect the attempt of the Turkish government to open negotiations on the relevant chapter with the EU.

We ask you to re-instatement the workers concerned.

We also ask you to get back to negotiations between the employer and the trade union. Social dialogue is the way forward

We look forward to hear from you,

Yours sincerely,



Jan Willem Goudriaan
EPSU General Secretary