



Public Services International
Internationale des Services Publics
Internationale de Servicios Públicos
Internationale der Öffentlichen Dienste
Internationell Facklig Organisation för Offentliga Tjänster
國際公務勞連

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21 January, 2016

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Dear Brothers:

PSI's Educational Support and Cultural Workers Network has recently learned of the alarming positions adopted by the Andean Parliament with respect to the election of the rector at the Andean University Simon Bolivar in Ecuador. We are extremely concerned with this situation.

Public Services International (PSI) represent hundreds of thousands of educational support and cultural workers (ESCW) throughout the world, many of whom work without job security, fair compensation and benefits, or recognition that the services they deliver are vital to ensuring high quality public education. The jobs of these workers are on the frontlines of the privatization and casualization struggle within the education sector, and many of these workers face challenges in pursuing their basic freedom to form a union and collectively bargain their terms and conditions of employment. The PSI ESCW Network is established to confront the challenges that these workers face throughout the world

Therefore, we recognize and support the Guild of Teachers and Professional Employees (Gremio de Docentes y del de Funcionarios y Empleados) and its declaration in defense of the university's autonomy. Our network respects the university's fundamental and inalienable principle that reserves the independence of the University as an institution of knowledge and learning that should never be subordinated to the political interests of external powers. We stand in solidarity and support with the Guild of Teachers and Professional Employees and share its commitment to the defense of academic freedom and the democratic mechanisms of leadership selection at the university.

Our network recognizes the results of the democratic election of Dr. Cesar Montano, and adamantly opposes any efforts to undermine the democratic process and interfere with Dr. Montano's rightful assumption as his duties as the university's rector.

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.

We share your union's commitment to democracy and the defense of academic freedom. We extend our solidarity with your struggle to guarantee the free exercise of these rights at the university. Please accept our letter of support in the spirit of international labor solidarity.

Also, please keep us informed of your situation. We welcome your suggestions on how best to support your important struggle at this juncture.



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