



DATE
14 September
2015

YOUR DATE

OUR REFERENCE
INT/Leif Isaksson

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H.E. Ms.Dalia Grybauskaitė,
President of the Republic of Lithuania
via e-mail: kanceliarija@president.lt

Your Excellency,

I am writing to you in my capacity as President of LO, The Swedish Trade Union Confederation, and as Deputy President of the International Trade Union Confederation ITUC.

On 10 September, the Lithuanian trade unions organised a joint protest action "No to Slavery at Work" in front of the Seimas and the Government of Lithuania, which was supported by the entire European trade union movement.

In solidarity with the Lithuanian unions, with whom we have close and friendly relations, we are worried about the Lithuanian Government's attempts to curtail employee guarantees, approve excessive liberalisation of labour relations and impose restrictions on trade union activities, which the new Labour Code would entail, in the form of:

- Wage reduction (with no remuneration for overtime provided); pursuant to the new Labour Code, workers will be required to work mandatory overtime.
- Simplified procedure for termination of employment.
- The possibility to dismiss an employee without any substantial reason, with a 3 day termination notice
- Shortened terms of severance packages and job termination notifications.
- Introduction of fixed-term employment contracts for work of permanent nature.
- Revocation of the right to holidays for seniority (work record).

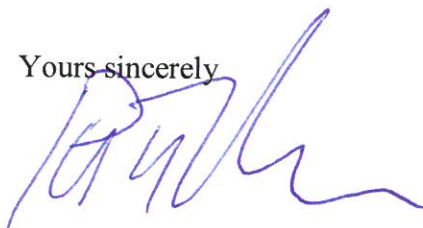
POSTAL ADDRESS 105 53 Stockholm
OFFICE ADDRESS Barnhusgatan 18
TELEPHONE +46 8 796 25 00 TELEFAX +46 8 24 52 28
E-MAIL mailbox@lo.se HOMEPAGE www.lo.se

The Swedish Trade Union Confederation

- Maximum weekly working hours increased from 48 to 60 hours.
- The mandatory period of work record for social insurance pension extended by five years.
- Reduction of guarantees for employees raising children.
- Restricted trade union rights and activities.

Therefore we stand in solidarity with the Lithuanian unions in their claims to cease the attempts to undermine employees' rights at work and to ensure continued respect of workers' and trade union rights.

Yours sincerely



Karl-Petter Thorwaldsson
President
The Swedish Trade Union Confederation - LO

CC:

Ms.Loreta Graužinienė, Speaker of the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania
Mr.Algirdas Butkevičius, Prime Minister of the Republic of Lithuania