

54 bis, route des Acacias Case Postale 1516 CH 1227 Geneva Switzerland Tel: +41 (0)22 308 50 50 Fax: +41 (0)22 308 50 55 info@industriall-union.org www.industriall-union.org

President: Jörg Hofmann General Secretary: Valter Sanches

7 May 2018

Natalya Marynyuk Chairman, PMGU union at ArcelorMittal Kryviy Rih, Ukraine <u>natalya.marynyuk@gmail.com</u>

## Solidarity with workers at ArcelorMittal in Ukraine

Dear Natalya,

We are writing this letter to you, on behalf of leading unions representing tens of thousands of ArcelorMittal workers around the world, to support the just demands of IndustriALL Global Union affiliate Trade Union of the Metalworkers and Miners of Ukraine (PMGU) in its current labour dispute with management of ArcelorMittal at the Kryviy Rih steel and mining operations.

We have received the following troubling information:

- ArcelorMittal Kryviy Rih failed to enter into wage negotiations, despite union requests, that were supposed to begin in the fourth quarter of 2017, in violation of the collective bargaining agreement and possibly the law.
- A worker was fatally injured on 3 March 2018 when a roof collapsed on his head (Another worker at ArcelorMittal Kryviy Rih died when a roof collapsed on her head in 2017.)
- The Head of Human Resources at ArcelorMittal Kryviy Rih, Olena Pylypenko, has reportedly adopted a highly confrontational strategy toward the unions, is not supporting social dialog, and has treated workers in a demeaning way. She recently reportedly provoked conflict with the unions by scheduling a conference of the labour collective on the same day and time as the one already scheduled by the unions but at a different location, in an apparent attempt to undermine the union labour collective.
- ArcelorMittal Kryviy Rih management's action plan for 2018 states "The main goal is to reduce the influence of trade unions," then details some steps to be used to achieve that goal.

We fully support PMGU's just demands that ArcelorMittal Kryviy Rih management end its union-busting, replace Olena Pylypenko as Head of Human Resources, end its bad faith negotiations over wages and other issues, improve safety and enter into genuine social dialog. We will continue to closely monitor this situation. We remain ready to offer you further solidarity and support in this important struggle if the situation does not improve.

In solidarity,

- Valter Sanches General Secretary, IndustriALL Global Union
- Michael Bach Chairman, IndustriALL Europe Steel and Base Metals Committee, Europe



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Viktor Chshetinin	Chairman, Metallurgical Workers' Trade Union "Zhaktau", Kazakhstan
Luis Colunga	Deputy General Secretary, IndustriALL Europe
Tom Conway	IndustriALL Global Union Base Metals Sector Co-chair International Vice President, United Steelworkers, USA/Canada
Irvin Jim	General Secretary, National Union of Metalworkers South Africa
Marat Mirgayazov	Chairman, Trade Union of Coal Miners "KORGAU", Kazakhstan
Loricardo Oliveira	General Secretary, CNM/CUT, Brazil
Heiko Reese	Head of IG Metall Steel Office, Germany
Didier Zint	FGMM-CFDT Representative on ArcelorMittal Select Committee of European Works Council, France