

Geneva, 17 June 2013

Kani Beko
General President
DISK – Confederation of Progressive Trade Unions
Şişli Istanbul; Turkey
By e-mail: disk@disk.org.tr

IndustriALL Global Union Supports the 17 June General Strike

Dear Brother Beko,

I am writing this letter to you on behalf of IndustriALL Global Union representing more than fifty million manufacturing, energy and mine workers from more than 700 affiliated trade unions worldwide, including four DISK members Birleşik Metal-İş, Lastik-İş, Tekstil and Tümka-İş.

IndustriALL Global Union continues to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with grass-root mobilizations conducted by widely-attended civic society platform, including trade unions, since late May. We are very much aware that this is not a struggle just for a single environmental issue, but also in a wider context, for fundamental rights, particularly the right of expression and freedom of assembly.

The continuous brutal violence by police forces against demonstrators since last Saturday night around Gezi Park as well as every corner of Turkey is totally unacceptable. We are very much outraged with the arrogance and disrespect of the Turkish Government which has resulted in deaths and injuries as well as thousands of arrests. We know that there are still millions on the street who are mobilizing themselves in the fight for human dignity and genuine democracy of the country.

I am happy to let you know that IndustriALL Global Union pledges full support behind the general strike taking place today, 17 June, with involvement of DISK (Confederations of Progressive Trade Unions) and its sister organizations KESK (Public Employees Unions' Confederation), TMMOB (Turkish Union of Chambers of Engineers and Architects), TTB (Turkish Association of Doctors) and TDB (Turkish Association of Dentists).

We have already expressed our protest to the Turkish Prime Minister, and circulated the news through our web site to our affiliates in every corner of the world.

I do believe that your struggle will continue to contribute to making Turkey a much more democratic country with fundamental human rights of which trade union rights and liberties are a genuine part.

Long live global union solidarity!



Jyrki Raina
General Secretary