

10 January 2024

Mr. Kassym-Jomart Tokayev
President of the Republic of Kazakhstan
Astana
Mangilik Yel st. 6, Government House
Republic of Kazakhstan
By fax: +7(7172)74-56-31, and mission@kazakhstan-geneva.ch

IndustriALL Global Union calls on President of the Republic of Kazakhstan to ensure the respect of fundamental workers' right to strike

Dear Mr. President,

I am writing this letter to you as the General Secretary of [IndustriALL Global Union](https://www.industrialunion.org), which represents more than fifty million workers in mining, energy and manufacturing sectors throughout the world, including Kazakhstan, to express our concern over the violation of the fundamental worker's right to strike in Kazakhstan.

We have been informed by the Industry Trade Union of Fuel and Energy Complex Workers that around 500 workers of the LLP "West Oil Software" have launched a strike on 11 December 2023, after a mutual solution was not found during the labour dispute procedure with the employer. The strike continues.

However, on 11 December 2023 the court ruled that this strike was illegal.

We would like to highlight that the right to strike is an essential part of freedom of association and is protected under the ILO Convention 87 on freedom of association and the right to organize that was ratified by Kazakhstan in 2000. Therefore, the fundamental right to strike must be respected by all bodies in Kazakhstan. We consider the court's decision to declare the strike illegal as a violation of Kazakhstan's international obligations.

We call on you, as the guarantor of the Constitution, to pay special attention to this case to make sure that the fundamental workers' right to strike is respected in accordance with the ILO Convention 87, that the strikers and their union are not prosecuted or punished for exercising their fundamental right to strike, and that this labour dispute is solved through social dialogue to avoid the negative consequences of an extended conflict that often provoke unwanted social tension.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,



Atle Høie, General Secretary