



WORLD FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS

Class oriented - uniting - democratic - modern – independent – internationalist!

Athens, Greece – February 21th, 2014

The WFTU supports the International Migrants Caravan

The WFTU representing more than 86 million workers in 126 countries around the world expresses its support to the initiative for an International Migrants Caravan supported by its affiliate the USB of Italy to protest against the anti-people's imperialist policy of the European Union, its Dublin Regulation and the FRONTEX policy.

Overall, the absolute domination of imperialism, the European governments, the World Bank and the IMF have, caused major waves of immigration from Africa and Asia over a long period of time, either by supporting imperialist wars or by plundering the natural resources of the continents and keeping their economies and governments captive in order to maintain their domination and profiting, thus generating poverty, inciting armed conflicts and supporting undemocratic regimes.

Approximately 200 million people are expatriates either permanently or periodically looking for work, fighting for their survivals or striving for an asylum and the current crisis has intensified this reality.

At the same time, Europe has become a “walled fortress”, with a “police-like” and “securitizing” attitude towards immigrants, instead of adopting much needed inclusion and solidarity policies. Regulations such as the Bolkestein Agreement, the Dublin I and II and others are a shame for any society, causing the aggressive and violent treatment towards migrant workers and asylum-seekers.

The World Federation of Trade Unions with the authority of its internationalist position can only answer that workers are workers, whether they live in the country where they were born and come from or not, they should have the same labour and social rights as all other workers in the country. Collective agreements should be respected for each worker. With this demand immigrants will not be used as a battering ram to employment gains of the labor movement, nor will they become victims of employers.

We call the working class and the people of Europe to jointly struggle for the abolition of all anti-immigrant law and regulations, for the granting of legal status to all migrants and refugees, for equal rights for all migrant and native workers. For the end of the EU Regulation “Dublin II”. For the granting of travelling documents to all migrants and refugees who want to safely travel to their countries of destination. For immediate granting of asylum to all victims of imperialist wars and invasions.

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