

**Ayuba Wabba**

President  
Président  
Präsident  
Presidente

**Sharan Burrow**

General Secretary  
Secrétaire générale  
Generalsekretärin  
Secretaria General

**Mr Roman Golovchenko**

Prime Minister  
Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus  
House of Government  
11 Sovetskaya St.  
Minsk 220010  
Republic of Belarus  
Fax: +375 (17) 222-66-65  
Email: [contact@government.by](mailto:contact@government.by)

**HTUR-AP**

**21<sup>st</sup> April 2022**

Mr. Prime Minister:

The International Trade Union Confederation strongly condemns the arrest and detention in Belarus of at least fourteen leaders and representatives of the country's independent trade union movement.

We were informed that on 19 April 2022, the leadership of the Belarusian Congress of Trade Unions (BKDP) – the President of BKDP Aliaksandr Yarashuk, BKDP Vice-President Sergey Antusevich, SPM President Aleksandr Bukhvostov, SPB President Nikolay Sharakh – were arrested.

We understand that many other colleagues were detained, including Yana Malash, Vitaliy Chichmarev, Anna Dus, Vadim Paivin, Mikhail Gromov, Igor Komlik, Vasiliy Beresnev, Gennadiy Fedynich, Dmitri Borodko and Irina But-Gusaim. Several others are still not reachable and their location is not known.

The trade union premises of the BKDP in Minsk and those of the Free Trade Union of Metal Workers (SPM) and the Union of Radio-Electronic Workers (REP) were searched. The security forces also searched homes of the many trade union leaders and employees.

We understand that during these searches, many objects were apprehended, including computers, flash cards, personal documents, passports, bank cards – including those of family members –, SIM cards of foreign mobile operators and trade union paraphernalia.

We demand the immediate release of all union leaders and representatives in detention and call on your government to drop all charges allowing unions to perform their activities in line with national legislation and the ILO Conventions ratified by Belarus.

We will continue to use all possible mechanisms at the international level and at the ILO, including during the International Labour Conference and the next session of ILO Governing Body so that further measures to secure compliance are pursued.

Yours Sincerely,

Yours sincerely,



General Secretary