Mr Edi Rama  
Prime Minister of Albania  
Tirana  
Albania  
E-mail info@kryeministria.al

PERC/AL/pw  
Brussels, 7 June 2021

Dear Prime Minister,

We are very concerned about the information we have received from the Confederation of Trade Unions of Albania (KSSH) and its member – the Trade Union Federation of Industrial Workers of Albania (FSPISH) – about dismissals and serious infringement of workers' rights in the private company Kurum International sh.a. in violation of the Labour Code and of the collective agreement at the enterprise, signed in January 2019.

Kurum International sh.a. is violating international labour standards, including ILO Convention 87 on Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise, ILO Convention 98 on the Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining, ILO Convention 135 on Workers’ Representatives, and ILO Convention 144 on Tripartite Consultation, all of which have been ratified by Albania.

On behalf of the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) and the European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC), we would like to express our concern about the present situation and developments, and our full support of the workers and their union representatives, who demand enforcement of the labour legislation and the collective agreement, reinstatement of those dismissed, and good-faith negotiations with the FSPISH.

Although the trade unions have approached you for support in resolving this issue, we are surprised that your government has not used its position and power to help solve the problem. We call on the government of Albania to intervene immediately at Kurum International sh.a. to guarantee the implementation and full respect of the Labour Code and collective agreement and to achieve the reinstatement of all the workers who have been unfairly dismissed.
It is the responsibility of the government of Albania to ensure that international obligations are fully respected in your country, including by private companies.

Sincerely yours,

Sharan Burrow  
General Secretary  
ITUC

Luca Visentini  
General Secretary  
ETUC and PERC

cc: KSSH