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**Volodymyr Groysman, Chairman
Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine
Kiev, Ukraine**

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Sharan Burrow

General Secretary
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PERC-LU/LEX-JSV

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**Amendments to the Law of Ukraine,
“On Trade Unions, their Rights and Guarantees of Activity”**

Dear Speaker Groysman,

The International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) has been informed by our affiliate – the Federation of Trade Unions of Ukraine (FPU) – that the Verkhovna Rada is discussing the bill, ‘On Amendments to the Law of Ukraine “On Trade Unions, their Rights and Guarantees of Activity”’ (reg. No. 3474 of 11/13/2015). We have carefully studied the documents posted on the website of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, in particular the Conclusions of the Main Scientific and Expert Department. We share the serious concerns of the FPU with regard to certain provisions of this law, which would be in direct contradiction with the Constitution of Ukraine and ILO Convention No. 87 (which Ukraine ratified in 1956).

On behalf of the ITUC, which represents more than 180 million workers worldwide, including in Ukraine, we fully support our affiliate’s demand to postpone formal hearings in the Verkhovna Rada. There is no justification to enact hastily drafted amendments to this important law, in particular without full tripartite negotiations.

We therefore request that you remand the draft to the respective profile committees of the Rada to ensure full consultations with the different stakeholders, including first and foremost the trade unions, as well as to seek the technical advice of the International Labour Office to ensure compatibility of the amendments with international labour standards. The ITUC would be ready to take part in these consultations and provide its considerable expertise on these matters.

Yours sincerely,



General Secretary

cc: Liudmila Denisova, Denisova.Liudmyla@rada.gov.ua
Chairperson of the Social Policy, Employment and Pension Committee