

**João Antonio Felicio**

President  
Président  
Präsident  
Presidente

**Sharan Burrow**

General Secretary  
Secrétaire générale  
Generalsekretärin  
Secretaria General

Mr Edi Rama  
Prime Minister of Albania  
Tirana  
Albania

By e-mail: [endri.fuga@kryeministria.al](mailto:endri.fuga@kryeministria.al)

LU/SM- PERC/AL/pw

Brussels, 30 January 2018

Dear Prime Minister,

On behalf of the International Trade Union Confederation , which represents 202 million workers in 163 countries and territories and has 331 national affiliates, we would like to express our serious concerns over the absence of social dialogue in Albania.

We understand that the last meeting of the National Labour Council (NLC) took place more than one year ago. In the meantime, the NLC has been stripped of its functions through the establishment of the Economic Council. The social partners have not been consulted in this decision, which will undoubtedly have massive implications for labour relations and rights in the country. The institutional framework for the enforcement of labour protections through labour inspection and administration has been seriously weakened by the current lack of clarity about relevant functions.

Albania is a member of the International Labour Organization and party to numerous international labour standards requiring tripartite consultation and collaboration in their implementation. This is particularly true for ILO Convention No. 87 on Freedom of Association, ILO Convention No. 144 on Tripartite Consultations, ILO Convention No. 81 on Labour Inspection and ILO Convention No. 150 on Labour Administration.

We urge you to honour your international obligation by restoring the effective functioning of the NLC. Moreover, we call on your Government to hold genuine consultations with social partners on any reforms which may affect the rights and

interests of Albanian workers. We will inform the ILO and the European Union about this grave situation and will not hesitate to utilise existing international and regional mechanisms of workers' rights protection if the attacks continue.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A. Rama', written in a cursive style.

General Secretary

Cc: BSPSH/KSSH