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*Segreterie Generali*

Rome, 31st March 2020

Susan Flocken  
European Director  
European Trade Union Committee for Education

Dear Susan,

We have appreciated your statement of solidarity for countries most affected by Coronavirus crisis, among whom Italy unfortunately holds the first place.

We have also appreciated your call for unity among European unions with a view to facing the aftermath of this crisis, which by now is not yet foreseeable. We hope, as you do, that European governments will not repeat the same mistakes they made to tackle the economic crisis in 2008 by cutting public services' budgets indiscriminately. This choice, indeed, is proving now fatal for our communities due to the lack of public facilities and health personnel, but also due to limited resources for many education systems that cannot cope with the emergency, even though they have adopted remote learning tools.

Therefore, we would like to thank you for your position publicly expressed and inform you about our solidarity towards all the colleagues, who are experiencing in their own countries the same adversity as we are, which we ask ETUCE to forward as well as our sympathy.

Yours sincerely,

Francesco Sinopoli

Maddalena Gissi

Giuseppe Turi