

younion \_ Die Daseinsgewerkschaft, Maria-Theresien-Straße 11, 1090 Wien

Mr Attila Beneda Deputy State Secretary Ministry of Culture and Innovation 1055 Budapest, Szalay utca 10-14. HUNGARY

Subject: BDDSZ - Fair Pay for Crèche Workers

Vienna, April 2023

Dear Dr Attila Beneda,

I am writing to you on behalf of younion \_ Die Daseinsgewerkschaft, representing more than 150,000 workers in Austria, to support the campaign of our sister union and fellow EPSU affiliate, the BDDSZ crèche workers' trade union, for a new pay system.

Like BDDSZ, we organise workers in childcare and are therefore fully aware of the importance of high-quality early childhood education. We are also convinced that good pay and working conditions are indispensable for ensuring the provision of quality childcare.

Parents expect high quality services for the benefit of their children, but low pay, poor working conditions and changing and unpredictable regulations are barriers to the recruitment and retention of this important group of professionals.

BDDSZ has collected more than 5,000 signatures in support of its petition and workers from 201 towns and 375 workplaces in the sector are in solidarity with their demands.

We share the disappointment of BDDSZ that you have not provided an opportunity for the union to discuss these issues and the fact that the major legislative changes envisaged in the education sector will negatively affect crèche workers, and lead to more frustration among them. The workers and their trade union BDDSZ are right: They deserve fair pay negotiated with their representatives as part of social dialogue.

We call on you to start this dialogue and consider the workers' proposal, which is a progressive plan that will help preserve the values and quality of public services. We strongly believe that investment in childcare and in the education sector is not an expense, but an investment in society and our future.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas Kattnig

Member of the Federal Executive Board

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