



To : Mr Viktor Orbán
Prime Minister of Hungary

miniszterelnok@me.gov.hu

Ref. JWG/mb

Brussels, 21 August 2023

Draft law on the provisions related to the further simplification of the operation of the state

Dear Prime Minister, dear Mr. Viktor Orbán,

EPSU, Europe's voice of public service workers, and a recognised social partner, shares the concerns of the Hungarian and European trade union movement about the draft law on the provisions related to the further simplification of the operation of the state.

We support the assessment of the Hungarian trade unions that the draft has provisions which discriminate against trade unions in the Public Sector. They are an act of anti-union discrimination and violate the rights of the workers and unions concerned.

The justification put forward for the measures is to reduce the administrative burden for the state. However, the measures will not reduce any administrative burden, contrary to the title of the proposed bill. In addition, allowing individual public sector employers the option of refusing automatic deduction of membership fees creates a new and significant additional administrative burden for public sector unions. There is no objective reason for these changes.

We therefore support the call for the immediate withdrawal of the draft and the launch of substantive negotiations, preferably within the framework of the National Public Service Interest Reconciliation Council (OKÉT). We recall that Governments must fulfil their responsibilities with regard to their role of employers in the consultation with trade unions and in full respect for the EU Social Acquis and International Labour Standards including ILO Convention 151 signed by Hungary.

EPSU represents over 260 trade unions in public services in Europe, including in Iceland, the Central Asian countries, EU, Turkey, UK combining the voice of 8 million public service workers. We are the regional organisation of PSI, Public Services International, representing over 650 trade unions worldwide.

We are available for any further discussion on trade union rights if requested.

Yours sincerely,

Jan Willem Goudriaan
EPSU General Secretary

EPSU Secretariat 40 rue Joseph II, box 5 – 1000 Brussels, Belgium
Phone: +32 2 250 10 80 Fax: +32 2 520 10 99 Mail: epsu@epsu.org www.epsu.org

European
Federation
of Public
Service
Unions

Federación
Sindical
Europea
de Servicios
Públicos

Fédération
Syndicale
Européenne
des Services
Publics

Europeiska
Federationen
för Offentlig-
anställdas
Förbund

Europäischer
Gewerkschafts-
verband für den
Öffentlichen
Dienst

Европейская
Федерация
Профсоюзов
Общественного
Осьпуживания



EPSU is a member
federation of the ETUC
and represents
PSI in Europe