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Dear Ambassador,

The European Transport Workers' Federation (ETF), representing more than 5 million transport workers across Europe, including more than 650,000 transport workers in the United Kingdom, would like to express our deep concerns about the proposed Strikes (Minimum Service Levels) Bill introduced to the British parliament this month.

Contrary to UK government claims, these measures would push the UK even further outside of international democratic norms. This bill serves only to criminalise and punish workers, undermine democracy at the workplace, and limit the effectiveness of all types of strike action. This bill again shows the contempt and disdain of the current UK government for workers and democracy and represents a regression for the country's workers and human rights.

The UK already has highly restrictive anti-trade union laws and the Strikes Bill will further undermine the ability of workers to participate in and protest decisions that affect them at the workplace and will inevitably undermine workers' capability and capacity to protect rights and conditions. Moreover, these proposals will contravene International Labour Organisation and Council of Europe standards, again contrary to claims by the UK government.

Trade unions are a fundamental pillar of democratic life and the right to strike is a fundamental democratic safeguard. We urge you to convey to UK ministers the solidarity of all European transport workers with all workers in the UK as they seek defend their standard of living and defeat these unfair and counterproductive measures.

Yours, sincerely,



Livia Spera
General Secretary