

A LETTER – WARNING TO THE SERBIAN GOVERNMENT

At the third regular Conference of the General Assembly of Regional Energy Trade Union Network of South East Europe (RETUNSEE), gathering 22 trade unions from 13 countries, held in Belgrade on 19 September 2009, a Letter – Warning to the Serbian Government was adopted, *inter alia*:

- The General Assembly voices a strong support to trade unions of EPS and NIS and warns the Serbian Government of the basic fact that energy is a common good and national wealth, belonging to the people, to citizens, to employees and future generations and is not owned by any government as they are all transient! Any giving the national resources away, under the artificial slogan of inevitable privatization, bears a historical responsibility for plundering and selling out the public companies! Privatization of everything cannot be a universal recipee and often has dramatic consequences!

The Regional Network appeals to the Government of the Republic of Serbia to stop the extreme implementation of neoliberal policy, which jeopardizes the existence and biological survival of middle and poor classes, and to stop with the heartless attitude toward their citizens and employees, but to resolutely and efficiently face corruption and crime metastasizing in the social organism instead! Beside the immense corruption in private and public sector, then in the state apparatus, there are a couple of hundreds of companies the owners of which are so-called „successful business operators“, and it is well-known that they have state funds and people’s property behind, the property of all citizens. If the current coalition government does not have the ways and means to solve this problem, it has to know how all epochs and times dealt with their Gordian knots!!!

Instead of the policy of breaking trade unions down, the current government must respect the basic principles and institutions of democracy, humanism and trade union actions, then the international conventions and charters (EU, IOM, UN) that protect and guarantee the right to equal and honest social dialogue!! Serbian Government must tackle the country’s development programmes much more seriously, as well as the problems of soaring unemployment, poverty and hardship!

The Regional Network will carefully monitor the work and policy of Serbian Government and, if necessary, will take certain steps: it will address competent institutions of the European Union, international trade union organizations and courts, organize a series of rallies in Belgrade and Brussels, strikes, etc.

THE RETUNSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY