

// **PRESIDENT** //

GEW-Hauptvorstand • Postfach 90 04 09 • 60444 Frankfurt am Main

ZNP
President
Sławomir Broniarz
Ul. Smulikowskiego 6/8
00-950 Waszawa
POLAND

Frankfurt, 9th April 2019
mb
Telefon: 069/78973108
E-Mail: marlis.tepe@gew.de

Solidarity with ZNP

Dear Sławomir,

as President of the German Education Union (GEW) and Vice-President of Education International (EI) I want to express my strong support to the demands of ZNP for a significant increase of teachers salaries in Poland. I also want to underline the solidarity of my union with your national teachers strike that started on 8th April 2019.

In many countries we see a constantly growing workload of teachers, while at the same time, teacher salaries fall short of the pay of comparable academic professions. Poland is already amongst the countries with the lowest teacher salaries in Europe. Salaries are a reflection of the value of a profession in society. The teacher salaries in Poland indicate that the status of the teaching profession is low and the profession therefore remains unattractive for young people. Your government should give priority to education and to the attractiveness of the teaching profession by substantial public investment in the sector.

Striking is never an easy choice for teachers, but your strike is fully justified. We support you in this struggle because it is a common struggle throughout Europe. It is in line with teacher strikes in recent weeks in Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium, France and Portugal. We are in solidarity with you and we will inform our GEW members about your strike. We wish you a great participation and success for your collective bargaining campaign.

With kind regards



Marlis Tepe