|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Congress House, Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3LS  telephone: 020 7636 4030 fax: 020 7636 0632 [www.tuc.org.uk](http://www.tuc.org.uk/)  General Secretary: *Frances O’Grady* Assistant General Secretary: *Kay Carberry CBE*  Assistant General Secretary: *Paul Nowak* |  |
| Vasso Kratimenou  International Relations Department  Greek General Confederation of Labour  Patission 69 str.  ATHENS 10434 | our ref gsee/fog/ot  date: 12 November 2015  contact: Owen Tudor  direct line: +44 (20) 7467 1325  email: otudor@tuc.org.uk |

Dear Vasso

Solidarity with Greek trade unions

On behalf of the British trade union movement, I send you our solidarity and support on the occasion of your one day General Strike on 12 November.

After six years of failed austerity policies imposed on Greece by the Troika and the merciless onslaught against labour and social security rights, Greek workers, pensioners and the unemployed have been forced to pay a heavy price for the harsh measures of this latest, third fiscal adjustment programme for Greece. Like you, we reject the new cutbacks in wages and pensions, tax hikes and welfare cuts. We support your protest against the cuts in social security and home repossessions.

The attacks on Greek workers, pensioners and the unemployed are the most severe in Europe, but are replicated across the entire EU, part of a vicious attempt to blame the victims for the economic crisis caused by greed and inequality, and only exacerbated by austerity programmes which will cause the Greek people even more suffering.

Good quality public services require strong economies. The solution to this crisis is the EU acting in the wider interests of its citizens, in a socially responsible way, promoting sustainable investment as called for in the ETUC’s *New Path 4 Europe*.

Yours sincerely

**Frances O’Grady**

General Secretary