

R Carlos Sersale di Cerisano
Ambassador
Argentine Embassy
65 Brook Street
London
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contact: Stephen Russell

25 January 2018

Dear Ambassador

Roberto Baradel – CTERA/CTA-T

On behalf of the British Trades Union Congress (TUC), 5.5 million members of our affiliated unions and British workers, I wish to express our deep concern over the renewal serious threats to Roberto Baradel, deputy general secretary of CTERA and international secretary of CTA de los Trabajadores (CTA-T).

This is a repetition of death and disappearance threats received by Baradel, and his family, almost a year ago, whilst in the middle of pay negotiations. Your government failed to find those responsible for these threats. Firmer action must be taken this time to bring the perpetrators to justice.

At the time Baradel, exercising his duty as a trade union leader, was questioning the amendment of your government's approval of Decree 52/2018, which seeks to enact a de facto repeal of the national collective bargaining system in place for education workers.

We would like to reiterate the fact that social dialogue is one of the pillars of all strong democracies. Threats against trade union leaders, actions to suppress labour rights and attempts to bypass the democratic process are the hallmarks of the kind of regime we hope Argentina has left behind forever.

Argentina has ratified and implemented all the core labour standards of the International Labour Organisation, as well as conventions 151 and 154 which protect union activity in the public sector and commit you to promoting collective bargaining.

We urge your government to take every step necessary to restore full respect for freedom of association and the right to collective bargaining in the country and to ensure the safety of Robert Baradel and his family.

Yours sincerely

FRANCES O'GRADY

General Secretary