



Dear Mayor, Dear Mr. Tanju Özkan,

We have been informed about the dismissal of 97 workers in Bolu Municipality following the local elections of 31 March. They are sacked without explanation. We ask you to re-instate these workers and discuss with the trade union Hizmet-Is terms and conditions under which this should happen.

Hizmet-Is, an affiliated trade union of EPSU (the European Federation of Public Service Unions) and PSI (Public Services International) informed us of the election promise that all local government workers would keep their contract and could choose their union freely. This was not kept. Hizmet-Is has been protesting, now for more than 110 days. Workers and their families are without income. The municipal workers walked 200 km from Bolu to Ankara and received support from civil society during this 10 day march. The march ended with a demonstration in front of the CHP building to attract attention to their cause. This remained without response. Workers have now announced that they will engage in an indefinite hunger strike as of 23 August in case no solution is found.

We ask you to enter into discussion with the trade union to find a solution, reinstate the dismissed workers and develop a long term relation with the unions.

We look forward to your response and in the mean time we will keep monitoring the developments.

Yours sincerely,

Jan Willem Goudriaan

EPSU General Secretary

Rosa Pavanelli

PSI General Secretary