



WORLD FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS

Class oriented - uniting - democratic - modern – independent – internationalist!

Assessment of the content of the 18th World Trade Union Congress

The 18th World Trade Union Congress, which took place in Rome in May 2022, has now been registered in the rich historical path of the WFTU as another successful and historic congress which has substantially contributed to the strengthening of unity, collectivity and effectiveness of our federation's action. The spirit of unity and rallying was expressed both in the unanimous adoption of the congress decisions as well as in the election of cadres and leading bodies. The adopted documents bind us until the next Congress and we will work with them. They were adopted through a rich and meaningful ideological and political debate of the 99 interventions.

The Rome Declaration, which is the political decision of the Congress, defines the guidelines within which our Federation and its affiliated organizations must proceed for the period until the next World Congress.

Through the Declaration, the anti-capitalist, anti-imperialist and anti-fascist character of the WFTU as well as its class and internationalist orientation are reaffirmed.

The basic principles on which the WFTU bases its action are also reaffirmed; these principles are the class struggle, the value of solidarity among workers regardless of color, religion, gender,



WORLD FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS

Class oriented - uniting - democratic - modern – independent – internationalist!

language or political beliefs, the defense of democratic and trade union freedoms and the organization of workers in democratic and autonomous unions, away from bureaucracy, careerism and corruption.

The commitment to the democratic principles of operation, to the collectivity of the guidance at all levels and to the respect and implementation of the guidelines decided democratically by the leading bodies of the Federation is reaffirmed.

It underscores the need for more active participation of women in the life and action of Trade Unions as well as for greater participation of young people.

The guidelines are also set out in relation to daily struggles, in order to counter the anti-workers' neoliberal onslaught and meet the contemporary needs of workers at all levels.

Taking into account the adverse conditions in which the Congress took place, due to the situation created by the COVID-19 pandemic, we consider that the organizational aspect of the event developed smoothly and without particular problems.

After the cancellation due to objective reasons of the hosting of the 18th Congress in Vietnam as planned, bearing in mind the pressing time limits, the realization of the World Trade Union Congress in Rome had serious objective organizational and financial difficulties.



WORLD FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS

Class oriented - uniting - democratic - modern – independent – internationalist!

Despite this fact, both the comrades of USB, which was the host organization, and the cadres of the WFTU mechanism worked hard and with self-sacrifice, for the preparation and the smooth realization of the congress.

The central document was published everywhere, live collective processes in the branches and workplaces were used, and proposals, comments, remarks, and even criticism were collected.

However, as far as the conditions of the Congress are concerned, i.e. the hosting, the venues, the translations, the preparation of the materials and in general all the necessary conditions for the smooth and undisturbed completion of the works, the Rome Congress was a complete success. It took place in a spirit of enthusiasm and determination, and the speech of the G.S. highlighted with evidence and data the upward course of our Federation, the prestige and credibility it is constantly gaining within the World Trade Union movement as well as the presentation of the rich action of the WFTU through the film of the opening. The WFTU Anthem also contributed to the spirit of enthusiasm; an anthem which should, with our care, be preserved and become more widely known to the workers, through our events and activities.

The 18th Congress was democratic, open, with free democratic dialogue and transparent and reliable procedures.



WORLD FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS

Class oriented - uniting - democratic - modern – independent – internationalist!

The participation in the discussion was large and quite rich, we discussed openly, democratically, and collectively all the issues of concern to the world working class and its trade union movement. The speeches were generally in a creative spirit, without unnecessary whining or fatalism. In the speeches there were remarks, suggestions and criticism which should be processed and utilized.

The WFTU Secretariat, in its first session after the congress, decided to send an official letter of appreciation to the USB Italy to thank it on behalf of all WFTU affiliated organizations for its valuable contribution to the smooth and successful 18th World Trade Union Congress of the WFTU.