



Tel Aviv, March 26th

8. Ben Sarouk St., Tel Aviv, Israel

To:

Mrs. Susan Flocken

ETUCE European Director

Brussels, Belgium

Greetings,

In these difficult days, all of us face a challenge that we have not experienced before. The COVID-19 crisis threatens every area of our lives including the field of education.

As in many countries, millions of students in Israel, in kindergartens, elementary schools, and secondary schools are closed in their homes, according to the government's instructions. Educators were asked to close the gates of schools and were required to shift to distance on-line teaching from their homes.

Distance learning is very diverse and includes a wide range of activities including - preparing online lessons, having direct contact with students and parents on all digital media, guiding and directing students in learning processes, conducting exams and assessment routines. Distance learning processes also take place with kindergartens students.

Alongside the great investment and efforts of educational staffs to continue to maintain a learning routine in this time of emergency, we are facing threats of harming our wages and working conditions, and a lack of appreciation for the great investment and dedication that educational staffs are required to in these days.

We are confident that education staffs across Europe and throughout the world stand firmly at the forefront of the educational challenge and show the social resilience required to cope with the spread of the epidemic and its far-reaching impact on educational, social, economic and cultural systems in each country.



We wish to express our solidarity with all our colleagues – teachers, principals and all educational staffs – across all teachers' unions in Europe. We are confident that everyone faces challenges that have not yet been seen, and creative solutions are needed to deal with the situation.

We also wish to express our solidarity with all ETUCE management and work teams. We are sure that, as the crisis develops, ETUCE will continue to lead Educational Unions across Europe towards the educational and value-related objectives that have been set, and towards the growth and empowerment of educational systems.

Israel Teachers Union is ready to assist ETUCE in any way needed and to contribute from her vast experience in distance learning in times of emergency.

Sincerely,

Yossi Michal, Foreign Relations Coordinator

Israel Teachers Union

Israel

Copy:

Yaffa Ben David, General Secretary, Israel Teachers Union – ITU

Pesach Landesberg, Foreign Relations Committee, Israel Teachers Union – ITU