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European Trade Union Committee for Education EI European Region

To: ETUCE Member organisations

For information to: Members of the ETUCE Committee

Brussels, 26 April 2018

SF/9977

The Kounka Damianova Award: Call for nominations

Dear Colleagues,

We are happy to inform you that during its 2018 spring meeting, the ETUCE Committee endorsed the initiative to introduce **The Kounka Damianova Award**, an award to be given every four years, during the ETUCE Special Conference, to an ETUCE union member for their outstanding engagement in trade union work in the field of education and the promotion of equality.

The award is named after Ms. Kounka Damianova who led the International Department of the Bulgarian Teachers' Union (SEB), ETUCE's member organisation, for many years. Ms. Damianova unexpectedly passed on 4th August 2015. At the time of her passing, she was the Chair of ETUCE's Standing Committee for Equality and was previously a Vice-President of ETUCE. In addition to her keen interest in equal opportunities work, she was an expert in occupational health and safety issues.

Award Criteria

The award shall be given for:

1. **Special engagement** (contribution to union work, beyond strict requirements of trade union work; not only linked to union programmes or other regular state/EU-funded project work) using a new and innovative approach;
2. **Long-standing and continuous engagement** in the union work in the following fields (among others): Gender equality and women rights; Integration and social inclusion (e.g. Roma, migrants, refugees, ...); Democratic citizenship; Combating extremism, violence and harassment; Young trade unionists; Capacity-building of trade unions; Exchange and cooperation between Western and Central and Eastern European trade unions; Cross-border engagement; Peace education; Language development; etc., as well as a sustainable approach that does not depend solely on funding;
3. **A successful initiative that is in process** (a real change-agent for the trade union work and society) with a sustainable approach, out-reaching to unions in the involved countries;
4. The receiver of the award should be a **trade union member** of one of ETUCE's member organisations.

The Call is open to all education trade union members regardless of gender, age, ethnic origin, religion, special needs or geographic origin.

Prize

The award recipient shall be invited to the ETUCE Special Conference as well as to the gala dinner. His/Her travel costs (economy/second class flight or train ticket) and accommodation for up to 2 nights shall be covered by ETUCE, and he/she shall receive per diems in line with the package of assisted participants.

The award winner shall also receive a Certificate as well as a 10, 000 € contribution to their initiative.

Selection procedure

The selection board is to be composed of: The ETUCE President, the European Director, the Chair of the Standing Committee for Equality, a Vice-President from a CEE country (if the President or Chair of the Standing Committee for Equality is not from a CEE country) and shall work in English only. The Selection Board will be composed with a view to encourage a gender balance amongst its members, taking into account the gender representation in the ETUCE leadership and of the chairperson of the Standing Committee for Equality.

Rules for nomination

Suggestions for nominations have to be given by education trade unions, full members of ETUCE, with the consent of the proposed candidate.

The application dossier shall be composed of:

1. A detailed description of the initiative, its aims, future perspectives and expectations as well as specific engagement;
2. The curriculum vitae (CV) of the nominee;
3. Reference letter of the proposing union signed by the President/General Secretary;
4. Reference letter from another trade union involved in the initiative and endorsing the nomination;
5. Reference letter of the person involved in the project;
6. Reference letter from another ETUCE member organisation from another constituency in the region **is an added value**;
7. Supporting material, e.g. link to project/initiative, film material, photo gallery, etc. **is welcome**

Please note that all documents of the dossier are to be submitted in English.

Member organisations are invited to send nominations for this award – using the attached form – to the ETUCE Secretariat (secretariat@csee-etuce.org), by **31 August 2018**.

We look forward to receiving your nominations.

Yours sincerely,



Susan Flocken
ETUCE European Director

Annex: Nomination form