

To the General Secretary of the European Parliament To Mr. Klaus Welle Rue Wiertz 60 1047 Bruxelles Belgique

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Ref. JWG/cb

Brussels, 11 June 2018

Dear General Secretary, dear Mr. Welle,

We have been informed about the conflict you have with the interpreters over unilaterally changing their working conditions and to make them work longer for the same pay.

We are astonished that you do not enter into negotiations with staff given that they have made a counter offer that includes considerable concessions on their part regarding their working hours. We support the demand of our affiliate USF and all other unions to respect the social dialogue, and call for negotiations with the recognised unions. Therefore we ask you to immediately come to the negotiating table with the unions to reach a fair deal that improves rather than worsens the working conditions of staff.

We do support the striking interpreters and we expect you to respect their right to industrial action and right to strike.

Yours sincerely,

Jan Willem Goudriaan EPSU General Secretary

EPSU is the European Federation of Public Service Unions, representing more than 260 trade unions in all European countries (EU, EEA and beyond) with 8 million members. <u>www.epsu.org</u>

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