

## **Dear Comrades of PEO,**

On behalf of the CGTP-IN and workers we represent in Portugal, we convey to PEO and all other mass and social organisations in Cyprus our solidarity and strong support to your mobilisation of resistance on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2015.

We completely share with you the reasons for the determined struggle of the militant platform « Society reacts and asserts » against austerity policies, privatisations, destruction of the welfare state, attacks on labour rights and working conditions and offensive against family and professional residence.

Like you, we are, as you know, feeling in Portugal the brutal effects of 4 years of Troika Programmes and interference with the connivance of Portuguese governments that have supported enthusiastically the brutal austerity measures that have led to the impoverishment of our workers, people and country.

In the last 4 years, our workers have lost 17 billion Euros of their purchasing power, unemployment soared to around 22%, 25% of the population is below the poverty line and 350 thousand Portuguese were forced to emigrate, looking for work abroad. Labour rights, particularly collective bargaining, are seriously mutilated.

For all these reasons, the CGTP-IN, together with the democratic progressive forces in Portugal, has been fighting and, like you in Cyprus, leading the struggle of resistance and proposing alternative solutions for our country, but also for Europe, a Europe which, under the directorate of Germany, continues to pressurise the workers and peoples of our countries (Greece, Cyprus, Portugal and others) to accept the diktat of big capital and financial speculators and the destruction of social and labour rights.

The many struggles taking place across Europe show that the workers and people will resist and fight for alternative policies of sustained economic growth, for quality jobs, fair salaries, social protection and labour rights.

On March 7, the CGTP-IN is organising big demonstrations in all regional capital cities in Portugal, with the slogan « Breaking away from right - wing policies! Building a left -wing, democratic and sovereign alternative!

Together, we will continue to struggle for workers and people's rights and interests, for our national

sovereignties, for a society free from exploitation.

We wish you, dear comrades of PEO, the greatest success in your 4<sup>th</sup> March and future mobilisations and best success for the struggle of the Cypriot workers and people.

Lisbon, 27 February 2015

Fraternal Solidarity

Augusto Praça

**Executive Board**