



Presedintele Romaniei, Klaus Werner Iohannis

Presedinte Senat, Călin Popescu Tăriceanu

Presedintele Camerei Deputatilor, Ion – Marcel Ciolacu

Guvernul Romaniei, Primul Ministru, Viorica Dăncilă

Comisia pentru Cultură și Media din Senatul României, President, Radu Cosmin Preda

Comisia pentru Cultură, Arte și Mijloace de Informare în masă Deputaților, President, Gigel Sorinel Știrbu

Brussels, 26 July 2019

Dear Mr President,

We write to you on behalf of the International Federation of Journalists, the world largest journalists' organisation representing 600 000 media professionals in more than 140 countries and UNI Global Union – Media Entertainment & Arts (UNI MEI) representing more than 140 national unions & guilds affiliating more than 400 000 creators, technicians and other workers in the media, entertainment and arts worldwide. As the global voices of journalists and media workers, we are particularly concerned by the ongoing conflict within Romanian Public Service Television (SRTV) and reported repeated violations of labour rights, including attacks on our affiliated organisation, the Romanian Union of Journalists, FAIR-Mediasind.

We have been informed that in the past two years SRTV's employees were subjected to unacceptable working conditions and that their requests regarding expenses allowances have been ignored.

We have also been informed that the representative trade union organization has not been recognized as a social partner, in a clear violation of national, European and international law.

On 12<sup>th</sup> July, 2019, FAIR-Mediasind representatives were denied access to a meeting with the Board of Directors by force during 90 minutes, as the management considered the union's presence was "unlawful", according to a letter sent by SRTV to FAIR-Mediasind. When the representatives were finally allowed to attend the meeting, President Director-General Doina Gradea, put to vote a text to revoke FAIR-Mediasind recognition in SRTV. The proposal was rejected but is an indicative of SRTV's unacceptable tendency towards union-busting.

In addition, SRTV management persists in refusing to recognize FAIR-Mediasind's legal personality in several cases before the Bucharest Court of Law.

In view of this situation, we stand in solidarity with SRTV's workers and FAIR-Mediasind, following the passing of a resolution by the union's General Assembly that met in an extraordinary session on 17<sup>th</sup> July, 2019.

We fully support the strike actions that were decided on during that meeting and will support any further protest in front of Romanian embassies abroad and the headquarters of the EU institutions requested by our joint affiliate.

We join FAIR-Mediasind in demanding the dismissal of the SRTV President Director General, as well as the directors of the Human Resources and Legal Departments.

SRTV management board must respect labour rights and immediately stop union-busting and taking illegal action against the union.

In this regard, we would like you, Mr President, to use your good offices and do your utmost to resolve the ongoing conflict in SRTV in a transparent and inclusive way and to ensure that labour and union rights are no longer threatened in Romania.

We thank you for the attention and look forward to your early response and urgent action in respect of this letter.

Yours sincerely



**Anthony Bellanger**  
IFJ General Secretary



**Johannes Studinger**  
Head of UNI MEI Global Union