

ANDREAS ZIARTIDES

General secretary PEO

CYPRUS.

25.4.78

Dear comrades,

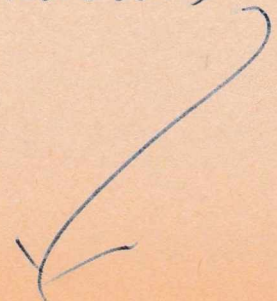
I bring to you the most sincere fraternal greetings of the leadership and of the members of the Pancyprian Federation of Labour (PEO) of the All Cyprus Civil Service Trade Union (PASYDY) of the Coordinating Committee of Teachers Trade Unions (OELMER - OLTER and POED) and of the Cyprus Branch Employed Trade Union (E.T.Y.K.)

To the checkbook Trade Unions and the workers of checkbook I express our thanks for their hospitality and for their efforts to prepare this Congress

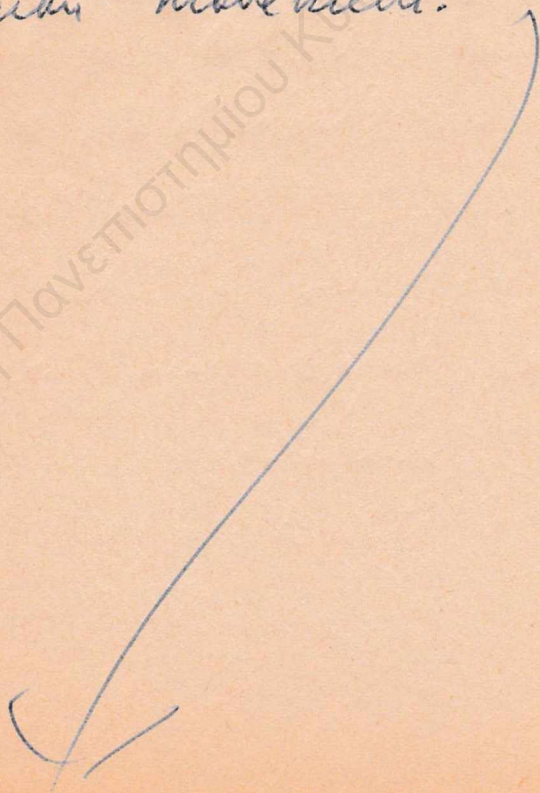
Our participation in this broadly representative world S.U. Congress signifies our belief in the cause of the international Trade Union Unity and Solidarity

We believe this is a historic world S.U. Congress.

We believe that this Congress is a vivid expression of the will of the masses of the workers all over the world to unite their forces and fight for their common economic, social and political interests.



In perspective of the measure
of formal agreement, the
mere fact that we have
agreed to gather here and
discuss our problems makes
this gathering a really historic
event of the World Trade
Union movement.



Dear comrades,

We have studied the two principal documents with care and interest.

Looking first at the Universal Declaration of Trade Union Rights we declare that we consider the proposed draft as an excellent document. The Authors and the preparatory Committee succeeded to ~~write~~ ~~of~~ embody in their document all the principles included in International Labour Conventions ~~and~~ Recommendations and Resolutions. But the draft Declaration is not ~~not~~ a simple addition of the principles and

and the procedures contained in Labour Conventions, Conventions, Recommendations or Resolutions. The proposed declaration is, we believe, a successful ~~effort~~ to further complete and improve those principles and these procedures.

Our organizations have come here with a clear mandate: To support the draft declaration of Trade Union rights and to contribute in the discussion for its further improvement.

We said that the document we are discussing is an excellent one. But we should not forget that other similar documents have been adopted before, for

which at the time of their adoption scarcely was said about their importance and their expected influence on Trade Union and workers' rights. But, as point 8 of the Preamble part of the draft document says, in spite of the ever growing international recognition of the principles of Trade Union freedom, massive and flagrant violations of Trade Union freedoms and rights are practised by reactionary governments, employers and landowners against the workers and their Trade Unions.

It will not be enough to approve this Universal Declaration. We shall have to offer

to the workers and their Trade Unions,
the strength and the means for
the implementation of the princi-
ples of this Declaration. I mean
that we have to work and achieve
the broadest international Trade
union unity. If, parallel to the
adoption of the Universal Decla-
ration of Trade Union Rights, we
fail to achieve national
and international Trade Uni-
on ~~unity~~ ^{unity}, the ^{real} value of this
excellent document will be
~~greatly~~ severely reduced. One
cannot speak of effective im-
plementation of the principles
contained in a Declaration
not even of the effective application

Labour
of hours, if the working-class
is weakly organised and de-
vided.

Βιβλιοθήκη Πανεπιστημίου Κύπρου - Αρχείο Ανδρέα Ζιαρτίδη

Our delegations endorse the document on Policy and Action proposed by the Secretariat of the O.S.T.U.

We would in particular like to stress our complete agreement with the five essential and priority objectives as set out in the document: - To fight for peace and détente, for disarmament -

To satisfy the economic and social demands of the workers - To

assure the economic and political independence of all peoples

and conquer under development - To eliminate colonialism, farcism and racism -

To establish economic and political democracy and the full development of workers' rights.

Our trade unions commit themselves to fight for the achievement of these important objectives. In carrying on this fight we undertake to further promote unity and united action among ourselves and ^{PT.O} we promise to work for the strengthening of the unity and influence of the W.T.U., to work for the strengthening of the international working-class and Trade Union Unity.

Our Trade Unions undertake to work for the development of international working-class solidarity. The Cypriot

⊕ in spite of the fact that some
of us do not belong to the world

Βιβλιοθήκη Πανεπιστημίου Κύπρου - Αρχείο Ανόρεα Ζιαρτίδη

working-class is in a position to fully understand the importance of solidarity in the struggle for the elimination of colonialism ^{in its} ~~and~~ racism, in the struggle for independence and sovereignty. We would be unable to understand how this important, essential and priority objectives could ever be achieved without an allscale development of solidarity actions in favour of the Palestinian people and their legitimate aspirations, including their aspiration to establish their own free and independent state; ~~in favour of the people of the Southern end of Africa~~

in favour of the people of Lebanon
fighting against Israeli aggression
and against imperialist conspi-
racies to partition their country;
in favour of the people of the
Southern ~~end~~ of Africa who
fight against the rule of
minority racist governments;
in favour of the people of
Chile, Uruguay and other Latin
American countries fighting
against military dictatorial
fascist regimes. In favour of all
peoples and all countries fighting
for their rights

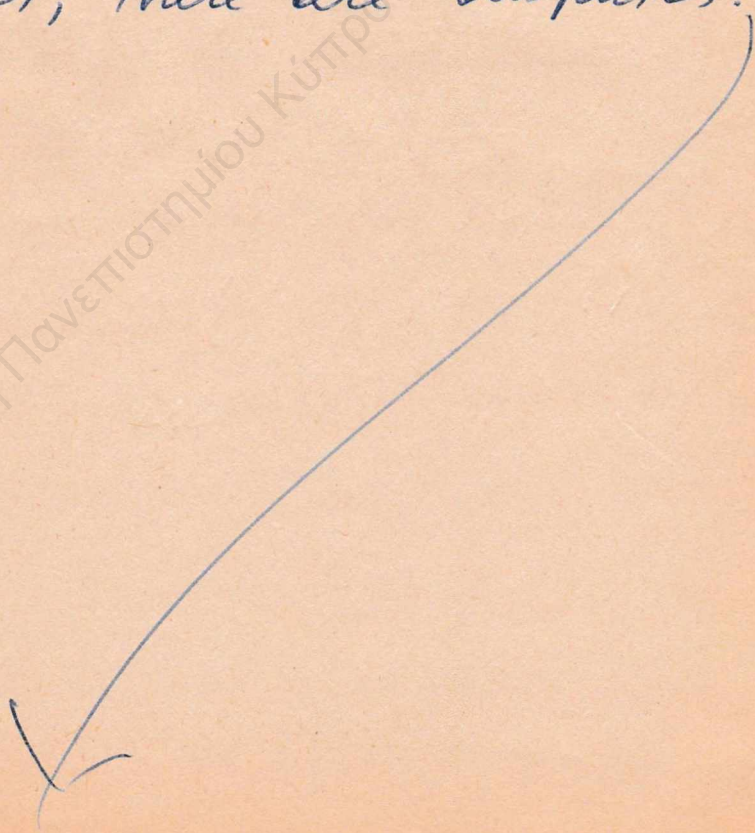
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Dear Comrades,

In the document on Policy and Action it is briefly stated that imperialism continues to prevent the application of the UN resolutions on Cyprus and to plot against the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-alignment of the country.

There is a very important truth in this statement. That imperialism with its interests its intrigues and plots is at the root of our problem in Cyprus. ~~Many people think~~ Not few people think that there are insurmountable difficulties in the relations between the Greek

Cypriot and the English Cypriot
communities, that there are
differences and disputes which
is not possible or easy to
solve. I am not telling you
that there are no differences
and disputes between the two
communities. There are diffe-
rences; there are disputes.



~~great need the Soviet Republic~~
~~Communities, that there are~~
~~differences which is not easy~~
~~to bridge. This is a wrong~~
~~view. To tell you that there~~
~~are ~~no~~ no differences and~~
~~disputes between the two com-~~
~~munities it would not be~~
~~the truth. But we the Commun-~~
Trade Union movement strongly
believe that ~~not~~ more
of the existing difficulties is
insurmountable. All existing
differences and disputes could
be peacefully and decorati-
cally settled between the two
Communities, if imperialism
ceased to plot and intervene
in the internal affairs of the
people of Cyprus.

It is stated in the document that the progressive and democratic forces of the Republic of Cyprus are seeking a solution in the interest of both the Greek and Turkish communities. I would like to assure you, comrades, that first among the progressive and democratic forces of the people of Cyprus, the Trade Union are seeking a solution in the interests of both communities. We would never endorse or support a solution which will in any way ^{disregard} ~~violate~~ or violate the legitimate rights

of the Turkish Cypriot community. I would like to assure you that in our effort to secure your solidarity and your support, there is no element of any hatred or chauvinistic attitude towards the Turkish Cypriot workers or the Turkish Cypriot people. I would like to assure you that when during this Congress we speak about the interests of the freedom, the independence and happiness of the people of Cyprus, we mean the people of our island as a whole, Greeks and Turks. During its nearly

fifty years of existence, this was the policy, this was the attitude of our Trade Union Movement. No hatred, no discrimination against our Turkish Cypriot Brothers.

Dear Brothers,

We require your solidarity. Appealing to you for your solidarity and support, we are not asking you to take any hostile attitude towards our Turkish Cypriot Brothers ^{or towards} the Turkish Cypriot people. Because they too, are the victims of the same imperialist plots, of the same foreign interventions.

I will briefly explain to you what is the meaning of our appeal to you.

Our problem has been brought before and discussed by the United Nations several times. Numerous Resolutions have been adopted which, if implemented would have solved our problem. All U.N. Resolutions call for the respect of our independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity. We ask you to demand from your Governments to work for the implementation of this part of the Resolutions. All the

XIX. resolutions call for the withdrawal of all foreign troops from the territory of the Republic of Cyprus. Press your Governments to work for the implementation of this part of the resolutions. The U.N. have decided and called upon the parties concerned to undertake urgent measures to facilitate the voluntary return of all refugees to their homes in safety. It also invited all parties concerned to continue cooperating in the establishment of a Body of investigation to trace missing persons

We ask you to press your Governments ⊕ for the speedy and strict implementation of these Resolutions.

This is where we want your solidarity and support.

⊕ to work and contribute

Now let me complete my intervention with a few words on the future of the WFTU.

We unreservedly support ~~the~~ ~~and~~ and endorse the contents of the last chapter of the Policy Document. We have also been impressed by the Chapter of Bro. Geunus report entitled "The WFTU in the re-
newal of the International
F.U. movement".

We agree that the WFTU must become better still. The WFTU cannot go back and it cannot remain stagnant. It must adapt itself and continue to adapt itself to changing conditions.

It must of course retain its mass and class character. It should be hostile to the theory of class collaboration.

It must underline its Trade Union character. The WOTU is not a political party, is not a combination of political parties. It tries to be as broad as possible and to unite organisations of various political and ideological tendencies who struggle for the interests of the working-class.

When criticising others, the WOTU is calm, constructive and concrete. It avoids ~~insects~~ insults and abuses against those who disagree with it.

We must try, as WFTU to be more attractive to people who up to now disagreed with us. To achieve this we must change the appearance of our programs, the methods of our work, the style of our propaganda.

I said that the WFTU is not a Party. I would like to add that the WFTU should not become the mouthpiece of Party Propaganda. But there is some thing with which the WFTU cannot compromise for which the WFTU should never remain silent and that is anticommunism and antisovietism.

This is how we would like
the W.F.T.U. to develop. Our
views are based on our
experience in our small
country.

Thank you.