



## COMO EM PORTUGAL, NO RESTO DO MUNDO, SÓ A INTERVENÇÃO SINDICAL CONDUZ A RESULTADOS

### [26/10] Canada: Teachers return to work

Teachers in British Columbia who had been on strike since 5 th October 26, 2005 returned to work yesterday.

The 38,000 teachers (members of BCTF – itself affiliated to EI affiliate CTF) voted 77% in favour of accepting a mediator's recommendations and returned to work on Monday, October 24.

The teachers strike began on Wednesday, October 5th, World Teachers' Day, when the government announced it would impose a collective agreement upon its teachers by way of legislation.

Shortly afterwards, the British Columbia (BC) Supreme Court decision ruled that teachers and their union were in contempt of the court, froze BCTF's assets and prohibited strike pay from being disbursed to striking teachers.

The BC government has been found guilty by the United Nations through the International Labour Organization for violating international law and for declaring teachers in BC as essential services. The BC government holds the highest record of having more ILO complaints filed against it than any other Canadian province in the agency's 84-year history.

Though teachers have returned to work, many are still facing financial hardship as a court order prohibits BCTF from paying strike pay for the two weeks the teachers were out.

EI affiliate the Canadian Teachers' Federation (CTF) established a Hardship Fund to assist the striking teachers. More information is available from: [www.ctf-fce.ca](http://www.ctf-fce.ca)

### [27/10] Turkey: Victory for teachers as court rules in favour of Egitim Sen

This morning the Second Labour Court announced the verdict that EI affiliate Egitim Sen would not be forced to close.

The reprieve was won after Egitim Sen agreed to remove a reference to the right to education in one's mother tongue from its statutes.

"As a result, there is no more reason to close the union" Egitim Sen leader Alaatin Dincer said.

"The court verdict shows that despite serious shortcomings Turkey has not lost its obstinacy and determination in striving to reach the level of a modern, civilised society"

"We view this verdict as a positive step towards democratisation," Dincer added.

The union, which fought a long campaign against closure with rallies and demonstrations, agreed in July to remove the wording - in conflict with Turkey's Constitution - from its statutes.

EI launched an Urgent Action Appeal on 19 October, urging its members and partners worldwide to show their support for Egitim Sen.

Egitim Sen would like to extend its gratitude to all other affiliates of EI for their support.



## **[28/10] Belgium: National strike – 90,000 take to the streets**

More than 90,000 protesters took to the streets today to vent their displeasure at the government's plans to raise the minimum age at which Belgian employees can take early retirement.

The Christian ACV-CSC, the Socialist ABVV-FGTB and the Liberal ACLVB-CGSLB trade unions united to protest, among other things, against plans to lift the minimum early retirement age from 58 to 60.

EI supports its affiliates ACOD-Onderwijs, FGTB-CGSP, CCOD-CCSP, COC, COV and CSC-Enseignement in their demands.

For Jean-Claude Vandermeeren, General Secretary of the Walloon branch of FGTB-CGSP, the demonstration is "historic".

"The government cannot stay inactive facing such a mobilisation and must change its philosophy" he said.

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O Departamento de Informação da FNE