

Katowice, 28 of August 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters

I am writing to you on behalf of Metalworkers' Secretariat NSZZ “Solidarność” to express our full support and solidarity with the workers and people in Belarus in their struggle for democracy and respect of fundamental labour rights.

Presidential elections were held in Belarus on August 9. They were once again blatantly falsified in favour of the long-serving ruler Lukashenko. This caused a storm of popular protest. The security forces responded with an unprecedented terror: mass arrests, beatings and torture of protesters. A wave of spontaneous work stoppages swept across the country.

Metalworkers' Secretariat NSZZ “Solidarność” supports the workers of Belarus, who are exercising their right to industrial action in defence of democracy and human rights. Metalworkers' Secretariat NSZZ “Solidarność” condemn all forms of repression against workers' and members of their families.

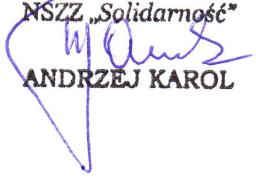
Metalworkers' Secretariat NSZZ “Solidarność” supports the strikers' demands to:

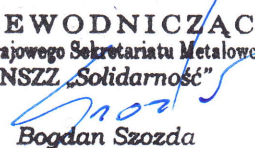
- recognise the results of the presidential elections as invalid, release all political prisoners and demonstrators,
- prevent the persecution of the strike participants and cancel the system of short term contracts.

The administration and security services are putting tremendous pressure on the strikers, members of the strike committee and their families. Many are threatened with dismissal. Activists are being detained by security services.

We demand an end to the wave of violence.

In Solidarity

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Rady Krajowego Sekretariatu Metalowców
NSZZ „Solidarność”

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