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ETUCE
EDUCATION INTERNATIONAL
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ACROSS EUROPE

URGENT APPEAL NO MERGING AND CLOSING DOWN OF SCHOOLS

Dear Colleagues,

The Greek Ministry of Education has announced the merging of **1933** school units in both primary and secondary education, without any prior and substantial dialogue with the teaching profession and the Greek society.

In particular, this decision allows for the merging of **1523** schools in Primary education and **410** schools in Secondary education. As a consequence, **1056** schools will be closed down permanently, that is **851** out of 10.798 (7.8%) primary education, and **205** out of 3.185 (6.5%) secondary education schools.

Through this decision the government both in form and in essence has launched a persecution against public education. It is imposing the IMF policy on public schools. We, the teachers declare that we will not tolerate the sacrifice of public education in favour of an IMF-Troika policy allowing for the dismantling of social goods. The so-called pedagogical criteria which the Minister of Education invokes as an excuse for the merging are in reality financial ones. However, education is not just numbers.

The consequences of the closing down will be dramatic for the quality of education and will lead to a loss of 3000 teaching positions.

We appeal to all Teacher Unions across Europe and around the world to write a resolution in support of our struggle to repeal the decision of the Ministry of Education in Greece.

For the E.B of OLME

For the E.B. of DOE

The President The General Secretary

The President The General Secretary



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