



Education International
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Education International stands in solidarity with National Teachers Association of Taiwan – May Day for All

Education International stands in solidarity and in support of the National Teachers' Association of Taiwan, as the representative of teachers at all levels, in its continuous fight to pressure the government to recognize and ratify 1st of May as National Holiday for all working men and women in Taiwan, including teachers.

On International Workers' Day, or popularly known in many parts of the world as Labour Day or May Day in Taiwan, we celebrate and pay homage to those workers, men, and women, who have contributed for more than a century to social justice and to building a better world.

May Day is more than just a mere holiday. It is about recognizing past achievements and planning for the future. It is also about guaranteeing equal rights for all citizens and for all workers.

Teachers, like many others in public service, devote their lives to making this planet a better place to live and work. That may make them distinctive, but human rights which are inter-related and indivisible. Teachers and other public sector workers should never be distinguished from other workers in being denied the exercise of their human rights; they should be covered by the same or equivalent legal provisions and social protections.

In addition, teachers and other workers have the right to have a dedicated seat at the negotiation table through their trade unions to achieve collective bargaining agreements. Governments should promote, not deny, these fundamental rights and freedoms of teachers.

The COVID-19 pandemic has shown that workers in the public and private sectors are impacted equally hard, yet the rights and remuneration enjoyed are different. In this pandemic, teachers and healthcare workers have been and WILL BE frontline workers who strive to protect the future of Taiwan. We believe that all working people should be treated with fairness and given equal rights and protections without any discrimination.

Education International, as the global voice of 32 million teachers and education support personnel in over 170 countries and territories around the world, calls on the government of Taiwan to recognize and ratify 1st of May/May Day as public holiday for all working people, including teachers.

In solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Edwards'.

David Edwards
General Secretary