Resolution

Re-claiming dialogue, gathering and deliberation. Towards an ecology of participatory school practices

Submitted for adoption by COC (Belgium) to the ETUCE Special Conference, the Regional Special Conference of Education International, adopted in Athens on 27-28 November 2018

The ETUCE Conference calls on ETUCE and its member organisations:

1. to acknowledge that raising the status and the attractiveness of those working in education and fostering working conditions is not only a matter of salaries and defining assignments, but also of reclaiming, reinventing and sustaining positive participatory practices in schools. In order for teachers to be regarded as real professionals, education trade unions need to be attentive to, and fight for, good working conditions in a very broad sense;

2. to recognise the crucial value of the professional dimension in education, meaning that unions in schools should not confine the social dialogue exclusively to pay and quantity of work;

3. to identify and acknowledge the capacity and strength of participative meeting practices’ between the organization and the professionals. Key to such practices is the capacity to bring together staff and management of education institutions to address common challenges, questions and materials, to open (new) common perspectives and to come to collective decisions about the issues that correspond to the needs of education institutions in full respect of the professional autonomy of staff;

4. to investigate the morphology and requirements for such practices to be successful and to (re)invent and (re)claim participatory school practices as they enable professionals to assert their professional autonomy and collective responsibility as part of an organisation;

5. to support education professionals in the identification of such school practices and in ways to reclaim, install and sustain these practices.