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NASUWT

The Teachers' Union

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Dear Ambassador,

New death threats against FECODE Executive Committee Members

The NASUWT, the UK Teachers' Union, has been informed by its sister organisation, the Federación Colombiana de Educadores (FECODE), and Education International (EI) of new threats to the lives of the members of the FECODE National Executive Committee.

FECODE has reported that the members of its Executive Committee have received 16 candles, 16 obituary notices with the names of each committee member and a funeral wreath. Due to the threats received, the NASUWT believes immediate protection measures for all FECODE Executive Committee Members are essential.

The NASUWT believes the Colombian government is responsible for ensuring the safety and the physical integrity of all members of the FECODE Executive Committee, as well as of every citizen who exercises their right to express opinions, to demonstrate and to organise to defend the public education system.

Once again Colombian trade union leaders are being threatened and intimidated. Over 6,000 teacher trade unionists have been killed, threatened or forcefully displaced over the last 30 years and this terrible pattern continues.

As part of the global community of educators, the NASUWT stands in solidarity with trade unions in Colombia and ask you to continue to closely monitor the human rights situation in the country, including the recent threats against members of the FECODE Executive Committee.

Yours sincerely



Dr Patrick Roach
General Secretary