





Education International Internationale de l'Education Internacional de la Educación

Latvia: Trade union activities on social dialogue to empower teachers for quality education

> ETUCE CEE Round Table Bucharest, 19 -21 October 2015 **Edgars Grigorjevs**, Vice President of LIZDA



To empower teachers...



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« Teachers should be empowered through the provision of **decent working conditions**, well-resourced, safe and healthy working environments, trust, professional autonomy and academic freedom »

« **Governments should redouble efforts** to engage in **dialogue** with teachers and their organizations and devise concrete policy measures and strategies to provide appropriate incentives, **including competitive remuneration and clear career paths** to teach in schools located in challenging environments and retain them in the profession »

/ Joint Message on the occasion of the World Teachers' Day by UNESCO, ILO, UNICEF, UNDP, Education International, 05.10.2015 /

okt Pasaules Skolotāju Diena 2015

Empowering teachers, building sustainable societies World Teachers' Day campaign by Latvian Trade Union of Education and Science Employees (LIZDA)



- Representative survey on teachers' motivation (opinions of deputies, teachers, school administration)
- **Competition** for school heads "Teacher friendly school"
- Politicians became a "shadow" of a teacher
- **Competition** in social networks for students "What have I learned from my teacher?"
- Four regional panel **discussions** with politicians "Let's talk about it"
- **Publicity**: press releases, radio jingle, poster (1,5 thousands of copies), magazine special edition (10 thousands of copies), official greetings etc.



Teacher friendly school

Competition for education employers – school heads



- Trade union recognized status «Teacher friendly school» ↑ (signboard) granted to 27 schools: 9 schools (2015), 9 schools (2014), 9 schools (2013)
- In the contest participated 78 educational institutions:
 23 schools (2015), 26 schools (2014), 29 schools (2013)
- **30 criteria** for evaluation of the work environment





The aim of LIZDA contest

To **enhance employers greater understanding** on decent working conditions for teachers and **improve the working environment** in order to ensure the quality of teachers professional activities and to meet society's needs for quality education

Few criteria

- Social security and collective agreement
- Work organization
- Infrastructure of educational institution
- Promoting job quality and personal growth opportunities
- Occupational safety and health
- Microclimate and human relations
- Employer reputation
- Remuneration and other motivators...





The main factors that reduce teachers' motivation In Latvia, %



- Unable to plan longterm personal budget
- Negative public opinion about the quality of education in Latvia
- The lack of prestige of the teacher profession
- Insufficient social guarantees for teachers
- Overload

etc.

Empowering teachers, building sustainable societies

LIZDA survey on teachers' motivation, 09.2015 (N=1633 / 1372 teachers 261 school heads)



Recognition of teachers work in Latvia

Teachers: "Have YOU received favorable assessment and recognition of your efforts?", % School heads: "Does TEACHERS from your collective have received recognition for their work?", %

Recognition from:	Yes, always		Partly, sometimes		No, never	
	Teachers	School heads	Teachers	School heads	Teachers	School heads
School heads	<mark>23</mark>	<mark>29</mark>	11	5	1	1
Colleagues	<mark>24</mark>	<mark>16</mark>	11	11	1	0
Students	<mark>16</mark>	11	<mark>14</mark>	12	1	1
Parents of students	12	7	<mark>15</mark>	<mark>14</mark>	2	2
Local government	9	12	11	<mark>11</mark>	9	2
Society	2	3	<mark>13</mark>	<mark>13</mark>	9	8
Trade Union (LIZDA)	10	<mark>13</mark>	10	9	10	8
National politicians	0	1	3	7	<mark>27</mark>	<mark>35</mark>
Ministry of Education	3	5	7	10	<mark>19</mark>	<mark>15</mark>
State Education Quality Service	1	3	5	7	<mark>22</mark>	<mark>29</mark>
%	100	100	100	100	100	100

Empowering teachers, building sustainable societies

LIZDA survey on teachers' motivation, 09.2015 (N=1633 / 1372 teachers 261 school heads)





In Latvia on World's Teachers Day politicians become a "shadow" of a teacher...



Empowering teachers, building sustainable societies

Politicians "School Day"





Thank you for attention!

"School is a second home for children" @H_AbuMeri #unite4edu youtu.be /wwORxEPaeEE

"Teachers are the ones who takes the biggest care of our next generations"

"Very often MP's are drafting education laws without seeing the reality in our schools" @lolita_cigane #unite4edu



"For politicians is important to provide opportunities for teachers to encourage motivation to be creative" @KM_kultura Melbārde #unite4edu



www.LIZDA.lv