

## Press release



**Pristina, 29 September 2011** - President of BSPK Haxhi Arifi and Dafina Mehaj, Head of International Department, attended the forth Summer School ITUC-PERC held on September 21 to 23 in Sofia, Bulgaria. Among the main topics discussed in this school were: global economic and social dimensions, options trade unions, trade union responses to legal and political downturns tough policy, trade union policies toward nature that no equality in terms of social rights and industrial relations, strengthening of democratic process through trade union involvement, curriculum framework PERC Regulation, for the year 2011-2015 and establishing a working group which will prepare a draft to the General Council Regulation PERC.

ITUC General Secretary Sharan Burrow, in her speech discussed the global crisis, and urged unions not to stop the fight for social justice for all workers. Speech held also the two heads of Bulgarian trade unions, Mr. Konstantin Trenchev by Podkrepa and the CITUB Plamen Dimitrov, and Mr. Cunniah Dan, director of ILO ACTRAV, Dimitrina Dimitrova ILO representative for Europe, etc.. Representatives of different countries during their speeches stressed that the main enemy of the trade union is the government, which is creating unemployment because of wrong policies and that their fault, now is the working class pays.

ITUC, in cooperation with the Secretariat of PERC have also held the third two-day meeting of the Network HTUR-h (human rights and trade unions) Regulation of PERC. At this meeting, participants from BSPK was Valdet Hajdini, Legal Officer. Purpose of organizing this meeting was the development of regional capacity, analyzing the work of HTUR / PERC since the last meeting held in September 2010, in Bukuresht. Also under discussion were the major issues of violations of trade union rights and human development of the Action Plan for 2012, and to ensure effective participation of trade unions in HTUR's activities.

Department of Basic Human Rights headed by Mr. Stephen Benedict HTUR Director, expressed their concerns about this network, where members are 90 countries from ITUC / PERC and that in case of any campaign or human rights violations around the world should react to all. They asked participants to consider the best work of this network and to analyze whether it is necessary to continue the network and if so requested by the great commitment of the states so do not expect only from Brussels but to document all work in this direction and be together all participants in network activities and to present different cases of human rights violations in order to be published in the book of this network which is published annually by the ITUC / HTUR.

There has been criticism and calls especially for the Balkan states which function differently than European countries and asked them to mandate their staff and workers to have more authority to work in this network, one who is representative the organization of this network to be responsible and not always through the president, because it makes the work effective. So call was made to allow staff to engage their organizations and to work more independent by the political leadership and to investigate cases and present these in Brussels in HTUR as soon as possible in order to achieve best results.

In the two-day third meeting of the Network- HTUR discussed these topics: 1. Analyzing the work of the ITUC-HTUR activities for the years 2010 - 2011, 2. Analysis of work activities undertaken by PERC-HTUR Network for years 2010 - 2011, achievements and difficulties faced, - Moscow Conference, December 2010, - ILC Meeting in Brussels, March 2011, - ILO Conference, June 2011, - ITUC Annual Survey, June 2011, - Campaign in Georgia - Actions solidarity between unions. 3. Legislative updates in the region of PERC, 4. Network development and expansion of PERC / HTUR, 5. Approval of Work Plan to PERC / HTUR, which was presented to the participants of the Summer School PERC.

There was discussion by the participants and they told that the HTUR network should continue and that is very valuable work was done for unions and publications arising each year as a summary of this network are very important information about union activities.



Also was held a presentation of a book by Mr. David Coats, labor affairs adviser who introduced the book published by the Social Economic Institute - ESI regarding the economic crisis, social dimension and options association. He said among others that the states which have the most powerful unions have developed economies and vice versa, countries that have weak unions have not developed economy, thus the study of these go together and should be flexible because they don't have another way. He said that labor markets are good servants, but the leader badly. They discussed the program of work plan for 2011-2015 PERC, which will be discussed in the General Assembly of PERC. At the end of the meeting a statement was drafted Support for Georgia workers who are working under difficult conditions (3 of them were prisoner), which statement will be presented before the Association of Summer School Regulation for approval PERC.