



Transport Workers Union of America, AFL-CIO

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"AMERICA'S FIGHTING DEMOCRATIC UNION"

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April 22, 2024

Finland's Prime Minister
Petteri Orpo
P. O. Box 23
FI-00023 Government, Finland

Dear Prime Minister Orpo,

I am writing to you on behalf of 155,000 Transport Workers Union of America members workers in the United States who stand in solidarity with our Finland colleagues in opposition to the dangerous and radical moves to undermine the voice of Finnish workers.

Our Finnish colleagues informed us about your government's most serious attack on workers' rights and social security in the history of the Finnish welfare state.

The Finnish labour market and welfare state are among the most successful globally. At the heart of the Finnish labour model is the tradition of social dialogue between trade unions, employers, and the government - which have led to sectoral negotiations on collective agreements, tripartite negotiations on new legislative proposals, and the expansion of the welfare state. This social contract is now being torn apart by your government.

If enacted, these reforms would set the country back decades and take it further away from its Nordic neighbours. Instead of being a world leader, Finland will be viewed as regressive and will call into question any claims of moral leadership.

We condemn your plans to start the massive reform package, by restricting the right to strike, in order to push through the other cuts without any real possibility of protests.

We stand in support of our Finnish colleagues and are prepared to act in solidarity. We strongly urge you to withdraw the proposed changes to the labour law.

Best regards,

John Samuelsen
International President
Transport Workers Union of America