



Livia Spera General Secretary European Transport Workers' Federation

Brussels, 27 March 2023

Dear Martin, Dear Cosima,

## Solidarity with nationwide strike action on March 27

We, the European Transport Workers' Federation, express our solidarity with ver.di and EVG as well as with all workers across Germany taking strike action and stand with them in their fight for fair wages.

All over Europe, transport workers across all sectors have made major sacrifices and shown pay restraint throughout the pandemic. Now, they are asked to accept wage increases that will lower their standard of living and give up holidays for more "productivity". This situation is common to most European countries, hence the unprecedented wave of strikes in transport over the last year.

Workers deserve wage increases that reflect the rising cost of living, particularly regarding food and energy inflation, which have left many struggling to make ends meet.

Not only that, but greater pressure has been put on workers due to increased demand and staff shortage, which has led to reduced services, which will only worsen. Increasing pay and offering better working conditions is the only way to attract more people to a career in transport.

Strikes are always the last resort for trade unions, occuring only when dialogue fails. By calling jointly for a strike, ver.di and EVG are sending a wake-up call on needed pay increases for workers in transport and mobility, and are showing their determination to fight together.

We call upon employers to engage in good-faith negotiations with you to reach a fair and just agreement that meets the needs of transport workers and recognises the vital role they play in keeping our economies and societies moving.

We stand with you in your fight for a better future and will continue to support you in any way we can.

In solidarity,

Livia Spera General Secretary

