

Geneva, 7 April 2020

To affiliated unions in the United States

IndustriALL Global Union in solidarity with workers in the United States

Dear sisters and brothers,

I write to you on behalf of [IndustriALL Global Union](https://www.industrial-all-union.org), which represents more than fifty million workers in mining, energy and manufacturing industries in 140 countries worldwide, to express our solidarity with the workers and people in the USA at this difficult time.

We wish to commend the great sacrifice and enormous contribution that workers, in particular those in essential industries, are making to ensure basic services to the population, helping to stop the transmission of the coronavirus, and caring for people who have COVID-19.

We call on the US government to adopt the necessary economic and social policies to assist companies and workers to guarantee the sustainability of the companies and the livelihood of workers and their families.

In addition, IndustriALL Global Union calls on the US government to protect the health and safety of all the workers who continue to work because they are providing essential services or working in vital manufacturing industries during this pandemic. Furthermore, IndustriALL, in line with the [statement from the council of global unions](#) from 12 March, is calling for safe factories or simply shutting down workplaces. In addition, IndustriALL has issued a [set of occupational health and safety recommendations for workers and employers to deal with Covid-19](#).

IndustriALL Global Union fully supports you in your current efforts to achieve the common objectives, along with the government and the economic and social partners, aimed at containing the virus, guaranteeing essential activities for the community and, first and foremost, ensuring the safety and health of those workers in the front line.

Furthermore, in saving lives and livelihoods, it is imperative that unions participate--along with government officials, including public health specialists, and employers' organizations—in the discussions that are starting to take place in many countries to develop a strategy that at one point will allow to ease lockdown restrictions while ensuring the health and safety of those workers returning progressively to their workplaces, while also avoiding a second wave of infections.

We believe that the determination and commitment the international community is showing to deal with this pandemic, which is underpinned by a spirit of solidarity, gives us hope that the same resolve will be used to tackle inequality and climate change.

In solidarity,



Valter Sanches, General Secretary