







His Excellency Mr Andrzej Duda President of the Republic of Poland UI. Wiejska 10 POL – 00 902 Warszawa POLAND

3 April 2020

Dear President,

The autonomy of Social Partners is a founding element of social dialogue, guaranteed by international and European law. Furthermore, social dialogue is a key instrument to fight against the economic and social consequences of Covid-19 and Governments, all over Europe, should be supporting social partners for them to succeed in this endeavor.

Therefore, we do not understand that a new legal act allowing the Prime Minister to dismiss at will members of the Social Dialogue Council during the Covid-19 pandemic was adopted in Poland.

As European Social Partners we are extremely concerned with this situation and - while acknowledging your decision to submit the newly adopted provisions on the Social Dialogue Council to the Constitutional Court as a step in the right direction - we call upon you to use all your prerogatives to stop this unacceptable infringement of the social partners' autonomy.

We invite you to urge the government to work with the representative Polish social partners to find a solution to combat and mitigate the effects of Covid-19.

We inform you that we have also sought the immediate attention of the European Commission to support us on this matter as we believe that this Act does not respect the fundamental values of the European Union.

Yours Sincerely,

ETUC Luca Visentini General Secretary BUSINESSEUROPE Markus J. Beyrer Director General CEEP Valeria Ronzitti General Secretary SMEunited Véronique Willems General Secretary