

Dear President, Dear Director-General, Distinguished Delegates, Guests and Observers,

The All-Poland Alliance of Trade Unions organizes this year's Labor Day celebrations under the slogans: **STOP THE WAR, SAFETY IN WORK, WORTHY WORKPLACES !!!???**

By saying stop the war today, we seem to be covering up our hitherto – extremely pragmatic indifference and even hypocrisy towards the facts that for the last few decades we have tried not to see wars happening far from our borders – the borders of the white man.

In some of these wars we took part, and not according to the slogan: for our freedom and yours.

The images from the wars, sometimes euphemistically called interventions, fought by us – white people – in Vietnam, Iraq, Syria, Libya, Afghanistan, Yugoslavia or in many other countries of the so-called Third World did not differ in anything, maybe only they were more drastic than the current war photos from Ukraine.

With these photos and the sudden desire to help people threatened by the effects of war, we try to appease our consciences and make penance for our previous omissions, often pouring proverbial crocodile tears and finding evangelical blades of responsibility by no means in our eyes!

Perhaps if we had reacted to our – jointly created – evil before, the current fires and tragedies at our gates would not have been

War at "our borders" can also be a convenient cover for the troubles of the spheres governing democratic, supposedly?!, countries.

It can cover: the inefficiency of presidents, the disco disposition of the prime minister from Downing Street, or the fight for the Oscar in the imitation of Pinocchio by governments straight from Warsaw, or Budapest.

War can also cover up the brutal battering of its own Citizens! Be it those in yellow vests or those within the framework of gender equality battered Women demonstrating against death in childbirth. The war finally covers the permanent tracking of these Citizens, for their "own security", by democratic special services.

The war on an international scale also makes it possible to cover up the painful facts for democracy that the indigenous peoples of the continents that are politically significant today have not regained their independence to this day... Some of them will never get it back!

In the strictly workers' case, war allows us to forget about basic workers' rights and about real social dialogue.

Dear guests,

In the meeting rooms of subsequent ILO sessions, we devoted many hours and devote to social dialogue. Many countries, including my own – Poland – have built great institutions of dialogue, wonderful and well-equipped conference rooms... However, two basic, in my opinion, qualities of this dialogue have been forgotten. His purpose has been forgotten and his spirit has been completely forgotten!

It is, therefore, for me a rather sad but unfortunately prosaic fact that the fulfilment of formal obligations by the essential parties to social dialogue is no longer enough!

And that is why, at this point, I would like to express the hope that the next documents – adopted by us – will actually be implemented, becoming its standard. And what is really important, this files to be executed by our Democratic Countries.

This standard of Labour: decent work, decent wages and mutual respect for the rights called human rights will allow us to extinguish most of the conflicts around us!

Jacek Dubiński All-Poland Alliance of Trade Unions

Worker's Delegate, Poland Geneve 2022