

RUMANIA MESSAGE

Dear comrades and friends,

We have been very pleased to receive the invitation at the Second World Congress of Pensioners in Bogota, Colombia, and we are very thankful and proud to note that a trade union force like yours invites a small association, such as the "Worker's Romania" Association to take part at such an impressive activity, counting on great international participation.

We are only at the beginning, trying to make ourselves known and we're always eager to receive knowledge and expertise from our more experienced brothers.

Unfortunately for us, the trade unions in our country are not strong, a large part of the economy being taken over by large foreign companies, who offer low wages and small pensions, and with a local legislation mostly favoring the interests of foreign capital.

When a government takes action in favor of Romanian employees and pensioners, almost immediately, these large multinational companies, start different forms of protest, mostly through NGOs paid by the the foreign capital. They falsely call themselves "representatives of civil society" so Associations like ours must struggle hard to make their voices heard.

Because of such a policy and the lack of funds, we are not strong enough to honor the invitations that we so often receive from those with whom we share the same creed.

However, we are convinced that if we had the chance to attend the congress, we could have shared our opinions and could have enriched our experience.

But any way, dear comrades, we are sure that wise decisions will be taken at the congress, as well as good directions meant to make our struggle stronger and stronger for the coming future and the many challenges that lie ahead.

This is all the more necessary nowadays, since imperialism seems to have opened new fronts in order to plunder the nations of many of the unjustly considered "poor states" in order to seize resources and to take advantage of the unemployed, providing extremely cheap labour force.

We know that you are probably the most important force fighting for the rights of pensioners and also for the improvement of their life conditions, who, in times like ours, are an extremely fragile stratta of society.

We will be glad to hear about the discussions and the decisions adopted on this occasion, because we share the same ideals and have the same views, including with regards to the current international situation.

Wishing you, distinguished comrades and the congress all the very best,

We remain comradely yours,
Ciprian Pop
Secretary General
Worker's Romania association
Bucharest
6th February 2019