

President
John Hendy QC
Lawyer, UK

Vice Presidents
Kurshid Ahmed
General Secretary, All Pakistan
Workers Confederation

Professor Jan Buelens
Advocaat, Progress Lawyers'
Network, Belgium

Dr. Anita Chan
Academic, Australia

Dr. Ericson Crivelli
Advogado, Crivelli Advogados
Associados, Brazil

Professor Keith Ewing
Academic lawyer, UK

Fathi El-Fadl
Director, Trade Union Rights
Centre (independent NGO), Sudan

Esther Lynch
Confederal Secretary,
European Trade Union
Confederation

Lornts Nagelhus,
Advokat, LO Norway

Yoshikazu Odagawa,
Secretary General,
Zenroren, Japan

Jeffrey Sack QC
Lawyer, Canada

Jitendra Sharma
Senior Advocate,
Supreme Court of India

Jeff Sissons,
General Counsel,
New Zealand Council
of Trade Unions

Surya Tjandra,
Lawyer and Director of the
Trade Union Rights Centre,
Indonesia

Ozlem Yildirim,
Policy Officer,
International Department
CGT France

Director
Daniel Blackburn, MA,
barrister

Researcher
Ciaran Cross, LL.M.



International Centre for Trade Union Rights
Centro Internacional para los Derechos Sindicales
Centre International pour les Droits Syndicaux

Address: 177 Abbeville Road, London SW4 9RL , UK
Tel: +44 (0) 20 7498 4700
Fax: +44 (0) 20 7498 0611
E-mail: ictur@ictur.org
Web: www.ictur.org

ICTUR was founded to
defend and extend trade union rights and
to raise awareness of these rights and their violations
around the world

By e-mail:

gr@usp.br, gscs@usp.br, gvr@usp.br, syur@usp.br, pg@usp.br,
seguranca@sp.gov.br

January 2017

Attn: Marco Antônio Zago, President
University of São Paulo (USP), Brazil

Cc: Sindicato dos Trabalhadores da USP (SINTUSP)

Dear Mr Antônio Zago,

The International Centre for Trade Union Rights is writing to express its concerns regarding reported attempts to impede freedom of association at the University of São Paulo.

ICTUR understands that under your new presidency of the USP, you have made a commitment to “eliminate trade unionism” from the campus. It is understood that the union SINTUSP (*Sindicato dos Trabalhadores da USP*) is being evicted without any negotiation and without any administrative or legal basis, and that university management has fired trade union leaders and brought numerous spurious legal proceedings against leaders of the union.

Most recently, it is reported that in December the USP obtained a judicial order to expel the union from their offices, by means of the police and military if necessary. ICTUR understands that SINTUSP has occupied their offices at university since its foundation in agreement with every administration up to the present day, and that the last attempt to remove the union was in 1979, during the military dictatorship.

ICTUR wishes to remind the USP that Brazil has ratified seven of the fundamental International Labour Organisation Conventions, including Convention 98 on the Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining. Workers’ freedom of association is also fully guaranteed under the 1988 Constitution of Brazil (Art. 5, XVII).

ICTUR calls on the USP to end this campaign of harassment and to respect the rights of its employees to join and form unions and to take action in defence of their interests. ICTUR will report these incidents in the journal *International Union Rights*, which was established in 1993, and which enjoys a readership in more than 100 countries.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Blackburn', followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Daniel Blackburn, Director