

## STATEMENT

During the recent presidential elections campaign, we observed numerous abuses and blatant violations of national laws. These laws, which were enacted by the same authority, strictly prohibit union leaders from participating in election campaigns, as well as from publicly supporting political figures.

We have evidence, in the form of photographs, official reports, and videos, confirming the participation of several union leaders from the General Union of Algerian Workers (UGTA), as well as member unions of the Confederation of Independent Unions (currently under registration), in the election campaign and their support for candidate Mr. Abdelmadjid Tebboune for a second term.

Despite the violations, no legal action has been taken against these union organizations, however, articles 13, 14, and 15 of the new law on the exercise of trade union rights provide for the dissolution of unions in cases of similar violations.

Due to the current regulations, we, the Confederation of Productive Forces, along with our affiliates and supporters, have been forced to boycott this major political event. This situation has prevented us from participating and influencing a crucial moment that could have changed the repressive policies, reduced repression, improved the social conditions of our fellow citizens, and advanced our demands for the establishment of a rule of law.

We are fully aware that this regime will continue to hinder us over the next five years with the same repressive policies as in the past five years. However, we are prepared to intensify our struggle, both nationally and internationally, to promote change and achieve the good governance that all Algerians aspire to.

We strongly condemn the double standards in the application of laws, which are not always in the line with international standards. We have informed all United Nations and International Labour Organization (ILO) monitoring bodies of these practices and their impact on our organization, which maintains ongoing contact with these bodies. We call on the future President of Algeria to consider the resolutions and recommendations from the ILO and Office of High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). We also request the initiation of dialogue with the Confederation of Productive Forces to review and amend the laws governing trade union rights, in order to align them with Algeria's international obligations.

Algiers, 07/09/2024