



President Gustavo Petro and Vice-President Francia Márquez  
 Casa de Nariño  
 Bogota, Colombia

8 August 2022

Dear President Petro and Vice-President Márquez,

As trade union organisations that jointly represent over 6.5 million workers across Britain and Ireland, we congratulate the Historic Pact on its victory in Colombia’s presidential election.

We have long campaigned in support of labour rights, human rights and peace in Colombia through our campaign organisation, Justice for Colombia, and welcome the commitments of your government to advance in these key areas. We particularly welcome the commitment to focus policies on those who have been most marginalised through Colombia’s history. While we recognise that tackling Colombia’s long history of inequality and violence will be an enormous task, we are inspired and hugely encouraged by the government programme published prior to taking office.

For two decades, Justice for Colombia has taken international delegations of trade unionists and parliamentarians to witness the reality in Colombia and to build international support for those working towards peace and social justice in the country – our most recent visit was in June of this year. In meetings with social organisations, trade unions, human rights defenders, conflict victims and signatories to the peace process, among others, the delegates witnessed the broad support for the Historic Pact and the excitement at the potential for change that could see significant steps away from the violence and deep-rooted inequality that has affected Colombia for so long.

Through conference motions, advocacy and in meetings with Colombian colleagues, our trade union organisations have formalised and maintained our commitment to the rights of

Colombian trade unionists, social activists and rural communities, among others. We have repeatedly reaffirmed our unconditional support for full implementation of the 2016 peace agreement and the search for peace more broadly. We strongly welcome your willingness to seek a negotiated settlement with armed groups that remain active in Colombia and you can be assured of our full support for all efforts towards the construction of a *paz grande*.

The British and Irish trade union movements will continue to stand with the Colombian people. We wish your government success in implementing its political programme and we look forward to working with you to strengthen peace, human rights and social justice in Colombia.

Signed:



Frances O'Grady, General Secretary, TUC



Kevin Callinan, President, ICTU and General Secretary, ForSa



Rozanne Foyer, General Secretary, STUC



Mick Whelan, General Secretary, ASLEF and Chair, Justice for Colombia



Sarah Woolley, General Secretary, BFAWU



Roy Rickhuss, General Secretary, Community



Claire Sullivan, Director of Employment Relations and Union Services, CSP



Dave Ward, General Secretary, CWU



Larry Flanagan, General Secretary, EIS



Paul Fleming, General Secretary, Equity



Eoin Ronayne, Deputy General Secretary, Forsa



Doug Nicholls, General Secretary, GFTU



John Boyle, General Secretary, INTO



Hasan Dodwell, Director, Justice for Colombia



Denise Curran, President, Mandate



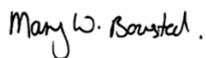
Naomi Pohl, General Secretary, MU



Patrick Roach, General Secretary, NASUWT



Mark Dickinson, General Secretary, Nautilus



Mary Boustead, Joint General Secretary, NEU



Kevin Courtney, Joint General Secretary, NEU



Tim Rose, General Secretary, NGSU



Carmel Gates, General Secretary, NIPSA



Michelle Stanistreet, General Secretary, NUJ



Chris Kitchen, General Secretary, NUM



Mark Serwotka, General Secretary, PCS



Steve Gillan, General Secretary, POA



Ethel Buckley, Deputy General Secretary, SIPTU



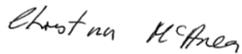
Clare Mellor, Chief Executive, Thompsons Solicitors



Manuel Cortes, General Secretary, TSSA



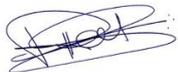
Jo Grady, General Secretary, UCU



Christina McAnea, General Secretary, UNISON



Sharon Graham, General Secretary, Unite



Robert Monks, General Secretary, URTU



Paddy Lillis, General Secretary, USDAW