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## RESOLUTION OF THE PRESIDIUM OF CESI ON WORLD REFUGEE DAY 2023

*The European Confederation of Independent Trade Unions (CESI) is a confederation of more than 40 national and European trade union organisations from over 20 European countries, with a total of more than 5 million individual members. Founded in 1990, CESI advocates improved employment conditions for workers in Europe and a strong social dimension in the EU. CESI is a recognised European sectoral social partner. Most of CESI's affiliates are employed in the different fields of the European, national, regional and local public services, but CESI also represent private sector workers.*

On the occasion of today's annual World Refugee Day and in the aftermath of the tragic shipwreck accident on June 14 in Pylos, Greece, where hundreds of migrants and refugees lost their lives, CESI expresses its full support to all those who have been forced to flee their homes and seek a better future.

With full respect to the fundamental rights to life and human dignity, the Presidium of CESI:

1. expresses its compassion with the families of those that lost their lives at the ship accident near Pylos – which stands symbolical for further, regular boat sinkings carrying refugees through the Mediterranean Sea towards the EU;
2. calls upon the European Union to establish and maintain safe pathways for asylum seekers and ensure efficient asylum procedures in accordance with the rule of law;
3. underlines that a potentially tighter rulebook for asylum and migration, which is currently negotiated by the EU institutions, must include safe procedures for refugees to seek and apply for asylum under humane conditions;
4. calls upon national governments to comply with EU rules and international standards governing migration and respect fundamental human rights and principles;
5. notes in particular that pushbacks are illegal and a drastic violation of human rights of refugees that wish to seek and request asylum;
6. recognises the potential contribution refugees can bring to the European labour markets and our societies;
7. invokes that this potential can only be realised if the European Union and its Member States invest adequately in well-funded and well-staffed public services to facilitate the social and labour market integration of refugees;
8. affirms its unwavering commitment to promoting working and social rights of refugees in Europe.

CESI and its members are ready to work together with the European Institutions, governments and NGOs to ensure the safety and well-being of refugees seeking protection in Europe.