



CWU DONATES €50,000 TO TURKEY AND SYRIAN EARTHQUAKE RELIEF RESPONSE

14 February 2023 - The Communications Workers' Union (CWU) will donate €50,000 to support relief efforts following the devastating earthquakes affecting the border region between southern Turkey and northern Syria.

The National Executive Council of the CWU has agreed the donation in response to a request from the Irish Congress of Trade Unions (ICTU) for support including trade union colleagues in The **Confederation of Progressive Trade Unions of Turkey (DİSK)** and **The Confederation of Public Employees' Trade Unions (KESK)**. The CWU donation will be made to the International Trade Union Confederations (ITUC) National Disaster Fund from the CWU Humanitarian Aid Fund.

Commenting, **CWU General Secretary, Mr. Seán McDonagh**, said:

"The devastating earthquakes in Turkey and Syria have resulted in thousands of deaths and injuries, as well as widespread destruction of homes and infrastructure. What has unfolded since the initial scenes of dramatic rescue efforts is a humanitarian disaster of enormous proportions."

He said: "Our fellow trade unionists in the Turkish confederations have many members in the affected areas and are making every possible effort to provide humanitarian aid to the union members and their families during this difficult and tragic period. They need our support, and it is important that we stand in solidarity with the people of southern Turkey and northern Syria in playing our part in responding to this disaster."

Mr. McDonagh concluded: "The CWU has a proud track record of supporting humanitarian efforts both at home and abroad. In the recent past, the Union made a similar donation to the Red Cross in response to the war in Ukraine."

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