

American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations



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April 26, 2013

Mr. Azzam Smadi
The Jordanian Federation of Independent Trade Unions
Via E-mail: FITUJordan@live.com

Dear sisters and brothers of the Jordanian Federation of Independent Trade Unions:

On behalf of the AFL-CIO and our 12.5 million members, I am writing to express our strong support for your newly established trade union federation. Congratulations on the occasion of this first Congress, which brings together representatives from 9 new independent unions and 7 union preparatory committees.

Like you, we in the American labor movement work hard to protect our fundamental freedoms to organize and bargain collectively. The struggle to protect workers' rights and guarantee decent work for all is global.

Your success in forming a new federation and the more than 900 labor protests that took place in 2012 alone are strong indicators that Jordanian workers are demanding a voice. We respect, admire, and support the efforts of the new independent unions to organize themselves and represent workers' voices.

The AFL-CIO and the Solidarity Center have been proud to support Jordanian workers for many years. We continue to encourage Jordanian civil society and government to support an active, representative and democratic labor movement, while workers and union leaders re-commit themselves to dialogue and cooperation with their brothers and sisters.

Mr. Azzam Smadi
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This first congress is strategic as well as symbolic. Together, your leaders and members will debate your vision and ambitions for the Jordanian trade union movement. Please consider us your partner in this struggle for social justice.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard L. Trumka". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Richard L. Trumka
President