

Исх. № 112  
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**To the Secretary-General  
of the General Confederation of Labour (CGT)  
Mrs. Sophie Binet**

Dear Mrs. Binet,

The Russian Union of Journalists (RUJ) is writing to you regarding the challenges faced by Russian journalists working under difficult international conditions. Like all other journalists worldwide, they are professionals whose rights need protection. Their work is essential in facilitating the exchange of information and fostering understanding between nations, especially during times of crisis.

We are concerned that the recent report by UNESCO Director-General Audrey Azoulay did not mention the deaths of Russian journalists who were killed while performing their duties, despite our earlier notifications. These journalists worked to provide the public with objective information, and their contributions deserve recognition and respect. It is important that all journalists who lose their lives in the line of duty, regardless of nationality, are acknowledged and honored.

We would also like to highlight the ongoing issues with visa denials and the revocation of accreditations for Russian journalists. These measures, including those taken by French authorities, prevent them from doing their jobs and undermine the principles of freedom of speech and workers' rights. For example, France recently denied visas without explanation to Alexander Kudela of Komsomolskaya Pravda, Nikolai Ivanov of Izvestia, and operator Georgy Bekauri.

The French authorities have tried to justify these actions as a response to the revocation of accreditation for a Le Monde journalist in Russia. However, it is important to note that Russian authorities have expressed willingness to reconsider their decision if France ensures fair conditions for media pluralism and access to information. Restrictions based on nationality not only harm individual journalists but also limit the global public's access to diverse and independent information.

As an organization dedicated to protecting workers' rights, the CGT could play an important role in supporting journalists, including Russians, whose professional rights are being restricted. We hope for your support in raising awareness of these issues and advocating for equal working conditions for journalists from all countries.

Freedom of the press and the right to work are fundamental values, and their protection requires the joint efforts of all organizations that uphold justice and human rights. We look forward to your principled stance on this matter and hope for constructive cooperation in defending the rights of our colleagues.

Sincerely,

RUJ President  
Vladimir Soloviev

