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# NASUWT

## The Teachers' Union

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Dear Mr President

### **New death threats against FECODE Executive Committee Members**

The NASUWT, the UK Teachers' Union, has been informed by its sister organisation, the Federación Colombiana de Educadores (FECODE), and Education International (EI) of new threats to the lives of the members of the FECODE National Executive Committee.

FECODE has reported that the members of its Executive Committee have received 16 candles, 16 obituary notices with the names of each committee member and a funeral wreath. Due to the threats received, the NASUWT believes immediate protection measures for all FECODE Executive Committee Members are essential.

The NASUWT believes your government is responsible for ensuring the safety and the physical integrity of all members of the FECODE Executive Committee, as well as of every citizen who exercises their right to express opinions, to demonstrate and to organise to defend the public education system.

Once again Colombian trade union leaders are being threatened and intimidated. Over 6,000 teacher trade unionists have been killed, threatened or forcefully displaced over the last 30 years and this terrible pattern continues. We call on your government to take all necessary measures to immediately and permanently stop the wave of threats and killings in your country.

As part of the global community of educators, the NASUWT stands in solidarity with trade unions in Colombia and will continue to closely monitor the human rights situation in the country, including the exercise of trade union rights.

Yours sincerely



Dr Patrick Roach  
**General Secretary**