

## **Joint Statement**

**“We denounce the attempts to ban the Communist Party of Ukraine”**

**7<sup>th</sup> February 2017**

The undersigned Parties denounce once again in the strongest possible terms the attempts to ban the Communist Party of Ukraine in view of the relevant trial due to take place tomorrow (08.02.17) in Kiev. This parody trial aims at annihilating the CP Ukraine through a process that is contrary to the principles of International Law, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international principles and conventions.

The attempt at prohibiting the CP of Ukraine is the culmination of a continuous and violent persecution of the Party with the ultra-right and fascist forces at the forefront. The European Union, the US and NATO, which have fueled and supported these forces, bear grave responsibilities. The attempt to impose the so-called decommunisation of the country, to falsify and distort the country's history and collective memory, which is seeking to serve the ideological and political considerations and interests of the current order in Ukraine, is evolving within this context. The efforts to turn former Nazi collaborators into heroes are all part of this campaign in the country.

The undersigned Communist and Workers Parties will work both at a local and international level to condemn such actions and denounce them before the international community. At the same time they will stand in solidarity with the CP Ukraine until its final vindication.