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British Ambassador to Colombia
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NASUWT

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Dear Your Excellency,

The NASUWT, the teachers' union in the UK, continues to offer solidarity and condolences to our friends at Colombia's FECODE teachers trade union following the recent murders of two more teacher trade unionists, Byron Revelo and Douglas Cortés.

We have strong and long-standing relations with the Colombian trade union movement and have worked for many years to support those working in defence of peace and human rights in the country.

In February this year, the NASUWT met with FECODE on a Justice for Colombia delegation (Peace Monitoring visit) to hear about the on-going campaign to improve conditions for workers and students in the public education system.

For this, they have faced shocking violence and stigmatisation and around 30 Colombian teachers have been murdered since the start of 2018.

The NASUWT urges the Colombian government to make sure all trade unionists can organise in defence of their rights without the threat of violence. The NASUWT stands alongside FECODE in calling for a decent education system accessible to all young people.

The peace process brought hope to millions of people, but, unless urgent action is taken, Colombia faces an irreversible return to its violent past.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Patrick Roach
General Secretary