



Nordiska Transportarbetarefederationen
Nordic Transport Workers' Federation
Pohjoismainen Kuljetustyöntekijäinfederaatio
Norræna flutningamannasambandið
www.nordictransport.org

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Nordic Transport Workers' Federation NTF, representing 45 transport unions and 360.000 transport workers, strongly condemns Icelandair's plans for circumventing its cabin crew's collective agreement by using methods of union busting and threats of negotiations with other unions.

The current COVID19 crisis may not be used as an excuse for social dumping or for any form of union busting. The COVID19 pandemic has caused crises like never before in many economic sectors, not least in the transport industry. Where some transport sectors have come to a complete standstill, others have proven to be a cornerstone of the whole society by keeping the economy moving.

We acknowledge that the aviation industry is facing the most significant crisis in its history. The solution to the crisis can not in any way be found by pressuring the union by threats to weaken the collective agreements. As stated by the European Transport Worker's Federation ETF, a rescue plan specific to aviation consisting of direct support for workers as well as conditional financial aid to aviation sector companies will be needed.

The crisis has shown us that the Nordic model is flexible and well-functioning structure, where social partners bare their responsibility and are able to make quick agreements and recommendations to governments. The model is based on the strong, well-organised employee and employer organisations. To our great disappointment we have witnessed some companies trying to use the crisis as an excuse for social dumping and even union busting.

According the information we received from our Icelandic affiliate FFÍ, the Icelandic press has cited from a reliable source that Icelandair plans to solve the negotiations for the renewal of a collective agreement for its cabin crew by changing the negotiating union. We strongly condemn the plan and advice the company to withdraw from it. We have seen similar union busting moves from other countries and the result is never good, for any party involved.

The world will not be closed forever. At some point we will come out of the lockdowns and the life will return to a new normal. The new normal does not have to be the world we left before the crisis. A greener, more sustainable and fairer world is possible, and we must aim for it. Do not

use the crisis to ruin or weaken the Nordic model. The model is our best hope for surviving in the unpredictable future.

Now is not the time to ruin, it is time to negotiate fairly and to create new, sustainable ways of working.

Jan Villadsen Anu Koljonen
President General Secretary

The Nordic Transport Workers' Federation (NTF) is an association of 45 transport workers' trade unions from Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden. The affiliated trade unions organise 360.000 transport workers, in seven industrial sections: Urban Transport, Road Transport, Railway, Dockers, Civil Aviation, Warehouse and Logistics, Seafarers and Fisheries.