



## **European solidarity with the fight against “The New School” of Inequality and Discrimination Promoted by the Greek Government**

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“The New School” promoted by the so-called socialist government in Greece in the context of its neoliberal policies, reinforced by the Memorandum [Greek Government-EU-IMF], calls into question education as a public and free good, reduces state funding for education to less than 3% of GP and destroys the basic labour rights of teachers. “The New School” is typical of the kind of schooling policies implemented by the EU in the vast majority of its member states in that 1. It introduces the gradual privatization of schools and schooling by encouraging competitiveness and entrepreneurial practices thus treating education as business, 2. The curricula are seen as a basically technical matter, hence the emphasis on skills and practical knowledge, 3. The number of pupils in classrooms is increased as a result of cuts in teachers’ appointments [since retired teachers are not replaced by new staff] while, at the same time, special training of pupils with severe learning, physical and other problems are also cut. 4. Last but not least salaries are reduced to a minimum [by 30% now in Greece but later everywhere].

The European Left Party expresses its support for the struggle of the Greek and all European teachers and students against these harsh neoliberal policies and is committed to fight for its cancellation.