

Case No CEDUC-24-4468

31 October 2024

The Honourable Prime Minister
Office of the Prime Minister
Auberge de Castille
Castille Place
Valletta

Honourable Prime Minister

In terms of Article 17C(1) and 22(4) of the Ombudsman Act we draw your attention to the care of non-compliance by the Ministry for Education in connection with the Final Opinion delivered by this Office on the 4th of October 2024 after an investigation pursuant to a complaint filed by the Union of Professional Educators.

The complaint refers to the discriminatory treatment of the said Union and its members by the Education Authorities, a treatment which has been found to be in violation of the provisions of Cap 385. and in violation of the freedom of trade union association.

The Ministry has, through its Permanent Secretary, indicated that it does not intend to abide by the recommendation to cease and desist from insisting on a “personalised union directive” with regard to the members of the UPE.

In view of the above, we are bringing the matter to your attention in the hope that it can resolved by you, Sir, thus avoiding the necessity of ulterior steps as per said Article 22(4).

Joseph Zammit McKeon
Ombudsman

Vincent A De Gaetano
Commissioner for Education

Encl: Final Opinion of the 4th October 2024

Copy: Mr Oreste Cassar – Director General
(Coordination and Implementation) – Office of the Prime Minister