



**Cathy Feingold**  
**International Department**  
**AFL-CIO**

Madrid, 12th June 2016

Dear sister, *dear Cathy*

On behalf of Pepe Álvarez, secretary general of the General Workers' Union of Spain (UGT) and all its affiliates, I would like to express our deepest condolences for the tragic mass shooting at the Pulse club in Orlando last Saturday night.

We stand in solidarity with the families and beloved ones of the victims, with all our sisters and brothers, fellow workers, and with all those living in America, believing in your nation's values of tolerance and respect.

If a kiss was the excuse, we will all kiss today in solidarity. As you are doing, we also have condemned and fight the growing culture of hate, xenophobia, racism, or LGTBI-phobia, and advocate hard for inclusive, closet-free working environments where women and men can contribute to create a better, fairer, richer society. No nation can be proud if there is no freedom to show pride at job.

The horrific act of terror perpetrated at the Pulse was an attack to all of us in UGT. We condemn it firmly. During its nearly one hundred and thirty years of history, our organization has suffered from persecution, and many of our sisters and brothers affiliates were killed for living freely and defend their ideas. This painful and long experienced made us believe firmly that hate and barbarity can never be healed by hate and barbarity, but throughout education, forgiveness, tolerance, and defending democracy above all. The act of hate and intolerance at the Pulse should only be address with tolerance, forgiveness, and the great sense of democracy that American people have shown for centuries.

We keep extremely worried about the easy access to fire weapons in the United States; we encourage AFLCIO, our American sister organization, to support and advocate for more restrictive policies towards weapons.



Unión General de Trabajadores  
COMISIÓN EJECUTIVA CONFEDERAL

All the affiliates of the UGT are today in grief and sad, standing by your side in your sorrow; but we are also by your side in your hope and daily work for a better, happier, friendlier, richer, colourful world.

In solidarity, *and best regards,*

Jesús Gallego  
Secretary for International Policy  
UGT - Spain