

11 November 2020

Colin Martin-Reynolds CMG  
British Ambassador to Colombia  
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Your Excellency

The University and College Union (UCU) has been informed by its sister organisation, the *Federación Colombiana de Educadores* (FECODE), and Education International (EI) of new threats to the lives of the members of the FECODE National Executive Committee.

We were outraged to hear from our colleagues in FECODE that members of its Executive Committee have received 16 candles, 16 obituary notices with the names of each Committee member and a funeral wreath.

UCU has written to the Colombian President demanding that his government implements immediate protection measures for all FECODE Executive Committee members. The recent threats to FECODE members have also coincided with an increase in killings, threats and the forced displacement of social and union leaders.

We urge you to raise these concerns directly with the Colombian authorities and to encourage the government to take all necessary measures to immediately and permanently stop the wave of threats and killings. We particularly ask you to urge the government to ensure the National Commission on Security Guarantees finalises its public policy at the earliest opportunity and that protective measures are provided to all trade unionists who have solicited them from the National Protection Unit.

Yours sincerely



**Dr Jo Grady**  
**General Secretary**