

9 January 2015

His Excellency, Jean-Pierre Thébault Ambassador of France Embassy of France 36 Ailesbury Road Ballsbridge Dublin 4

Dear Mr Ambassador

On behalf of the Irish Congress of Trade Unions, I would like to express our revulsion and profound sorrow at the outrage perpetrated against the people of France, with the attack on the staff of Charlie Hebdo magazine and on police officers coming to their aid.

It was with deep shock that we watched events in Paris unfold. This brutal attack on people as they went about their daily work was a source of deep distress to us, even more so as it became clear that they had been attacked simply because of the work they did.

Their murder advances no civilised cause and will be rightly condemned by all who value essential humanity, no matter their creed, colour or ethnicity.

To the families of the victims and their loved ones, to their colleagues and all who suffered in this outrage, I wish to extend our deepest condolences.

The founding principles of the French Republic – *Liberty, Equality & Fraternity* – have always served as an inspiration to us and on behalf of all trade union members across the island of Ireland, please accept our sympathies at this very difficult time.

Yours Sincerely

David Begg

General Secretary

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