



# WORLD FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS

Class oriented - uniting - democratic - modern – independent – internationalist!

Athens, 7th May 2018

## **WFTU: Announcement on the 200 years since the birth of Karl Marx**

On 5<sup>th</sup> May 1818 the great founder of the scientific world view of the working class Karl Marx was born in Trier of Prussia. His theoretical work and his action paved the way to the world working class to realize its historical role and to struggle for the end of the exploitation.

By analyzing the laws of the capitalist mode of production in his works like the Critique of Political Economy (1859) and the Capital (1867), he proved that capitalism is incompatible with the workers prosperity and an obstacle to social development. He also highlighted the necessity of the class oriented struggle of the masses for the establishment of the socialist society.

Karl Marx, along with Friedrich Engels, played a key role in the foundation of the International Workingmen's Association (the first International) in 1864 in London, by writing its first "Declaration" and a series of its documents. The International Workingmen's Association, which was the predecessor of the World Federation of Trade Unions, united the labor movements of various countries under a joint proletarian fight and Karl Marx vigorously fought for the continuation of its militant trajectory.

Nowadays that the contradictions and rivalries among the monopolies are exacerbating, provoking wars and misery to the peoples, the work of Karl Marx will always be a polyvalent weapon in the hands of workers and ordinary people all over the world in their everyday struggle for their working and social rights and for the abolition of exploitation of man by man.



The Secretariat