

## HELLENIC FEDERATION OF UNIVERSITY TEACHERS' ASSOCIATIONS

P.O.S.D.E.P. is a federation comprising of 35 (thirty-five) teachers' unions throughout Greece.

We are mainly in contact with the Federation of Associations of Technical Institutions (OSEP-TEI) and the Union of Greek Researchers (E.E.E). We also have contacts with the Greek Federation of State School Teachers of Secondary Education (OLME) and the Greek Federation of State School Teachers of Primary Education (DOE) for subjects concerning the Education Law.

The main aim of our federation since its establishment in 1989 has been to ensure that Greek governments will provide students with public, free university education. That the universities will be totally independent; fiscally, administratively, institutionally. Much has been done, but there is a lot more to be done.

During all these years, the federation has been participating in the formulation of bills concerning the tertiary education. It has supported and controlled the government's attempts to evaluate our colleagues, the universities and the very same policy adopted by the Ministry of Education.

There is an immediate need to have a scientific listing of the Tertiary Education and Research Area. Unfortunately, there is no such thing as a data base for the tertiary education and as a result no one can refresh any data found scattered in various social services.

Another important issue the federation has been struggling for is the university teachers' salaries and pensions. Up to now, half of our salary constitutes of allowances, for example we take an allowance for 'preparation of teaching' or a 'research allowance'. Our goal is all this 'extra' money be integrated in the basic salary.

Since the great economic, political and social crisis our salaries have been diminished up to 25% (2009-2011) and the university budget up to 50%. It is necessary to continue to finance the higher education during this period since we believe that we can definitively contribute to the economic development.