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May 13, 2024

Dear Legislator,

We are writing to you on behalf of the Bermuda Industrial Union, to express our alarm and concern that the government of the Argentine Republic has intervened in the management of the public media companies (Canal 7 and the educational channels Encuentro, Paka Paka and Depor TV), with the aim of privatising, emptying and/or destroying them.

Delegating public communication to the market will result in the emptying of spaces that guarantee the diversity of cultural expression and, fundamentally, the right to reliable information. Public media are fundamental to guarantee information pluralism, cultural diversity and the strengthening of democracy. Moreover, they represent a fundamental and indispensable tool in democratic societies. No developed country in the world lacks a public media system.

In Bermuda we benefit gratefully from the information that is broadcast by the public, it keeps the citizens informed on many important issues that affect their private lives. An informed community contributes greatly to the running of any country because they make sound decisions based on first-hand information.

The world is watching closely the evolution of this attack on public communication and the important role that the Congress of the Republic of Argentina is playing at this juncture. We stand in solidarity with, support, and accompany AATRAC, SATSAID, SALCO & SUTEP and the workers of the Public Media of Argentina and ask you to do everything in your power to prevent the government from moving forward with these policies that are so harmful to the Argentinean people.

Yours faithfully,

Sis. Ronnie Burgess General Secretary,

On behalf of the Bermuda Industrial Union