



## **Australian Education Union - Federal Office**

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### **WORLD TEACHERS' DAY- QUALITY TEACHERS FOR QUALITY EDUCATION**

Teachers around Australia celebrate World Teachers' Day today, October 29<sup>th</sup>.

This day recognises the ongoing work of teachers within communities in providing quality education for millions of students everywhere.

Federal President of the Australian Education Union, Pat Byrne said, "While in Australia we are fortunate to have qualified and experienced teachers in our schools, in many other countries this is not the case. It is imperative that governments everywhere recognise the link between quality teachers and quality education and provide proper training for those wanting to become educators.

"On World Teachers' Day it is appropriate to highlight the importance of teaching in providing a better future for our children and a more equal, tolerant and compassionate world," Ms Byrne said.

"The decline in respect for the teaching profession which is evident in many countries is demonstrated by examples such as the increasing use of unqualified teachers; a reduction in the proportion of government spending on education in many western countries; and a focus on narrow measures of standards in place of active, enquiring learning. This denies the links between quality education and both a healthy democracy and a strong economy.

"Teachers in Australia and around the world will be and have been taking part in activities designed to draw public attention to the difficulties facing educators in many countries," said Ms Byrne.

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