



**Cónaidhm Éireannach na Múinteoirí Ollscoile
Irish Federation of University Teachers**

PRESS RELEASE

**Association of Secondary Teachers in Ireland
Irish Federation of University Teachers
Irish National Teachers' Organisation
Teachers' Union of Ireland**

THURSDAY, 10 DECEMBER 2009

Teacher unions rule out return to talks on change

The General Secretaries and Presidents of the four teacher unions met this morning to consider the impact of the budget on teachers and their families and plan a response.

The leadership of the unions is determined to reflect the anger of teachers at the budget cuts to salaries and changes to pensions through a sustained campaign of opposition.

The four unions said the unilateral imposition of a pay cut in the budget was completely incompatible with social partnership which in the view of the four teacher unions is now over.

All of the unions categorically rejected out of hand any suggestion that talks on a transformation agenda could continue. The unions said Government had its chance to talk last week but spurned the opportunity. "Those talks are over," said a spokesperson. "They will not be restarted."

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