

14 NOVEMBER 2012

WITH THE EUROPEAN TRADE UNION CONFEDERATION

FOR JOBS AND SOLIDARITY – NO TO AUSTERITY

AUSTERITY DOESN'T WORK!

The European trade union movement has for years been denouncing austerity measures. They are dragging Europe into economic stagnation and even recession. The result is that growth has stalled and unemployment continues to rise. Wages and social protection cuts are attacks against the European social model and increase inequality and social injustice.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF)'s «miscalculations» have had an unbearable impact on the daily life of European workers and citizens. It brings into question the whole basis of austerity policy. The IMF must apologize. The Troika must revise its demands.

Europe has a social debt, not just a monetary debt. The promised recovery has not happened. Twenty-five million Europeans are out of jobs. In some countries, the unemployment rate for young people is over 50 per cent. The sense of injustice is widespread and social discontent is growing.

We want action for sustainable growth and jobs. Not just words. The social situation is urgent.

THERE HAS TO BE A CHANGE OF COURSE FOR A EUROPEAN SOCIAL COMPACT

European trade unions demand a change of course. The remedies being applied are not working. They are destroying our jobs and our social heritage.

The ETUC seeks a Social Compact for Europe with real social dialogue, an economic policy that fosters quality jobs, economic solidarity between countries and social justice.

Workers are paying a steep price for the crisis and austerity measures, while the world of finance and speculators continue to prosper.

Let's stop tax fraud and put an end to tax havens and tax competition between countries. The financial transaction tax has to help repair the damage of casino capitalism.

FOR JOBS AND SOLIDARITY NO TO SOCIAL INEQUALITIES

We reject:

- Dismantling social protection,
- Increased labour market flexibility,
- Privatisation of public services,
- Downward pressure on wages,
- Lower pensions,
- Deregulation of social standards,
- Social exclusion,
- Growing inequalities,
- Challenges to collective bargaining and social dialogue.

We propose:

- Economic governance at the service of sustainable growth and quality jobs,
- Economic and social justice through redistribution policies, taxation and social protection,
- Employment guarantees for young people,
- An ambitious European industrial policy steered towards a green, low-carbon economy and forward-looking sectors with employment opportunities and growth,
- A more intense fight against social and wage dumping,
- Pooling of debt through Euro-bonds,
- Effective implementation of a financial transaction tax to tackle speculation and enable investment policies,
- Harmonisation of the tax base with a minimum rate for companies across Europe,
- A determined effort to fight tax evasion and fraud,
- Respect for collective bargaining and social dialogue,
- Respect for fundamental social and trade union rights.



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**European Day of Action
and Solidarity**

**For Jobs
and Solidarity
in Europe**

**NO to
Austerity**



European Trade Union Confederation
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