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European trade union news



Trade Union News



European elections



For citizens the crisis is not over

Commenting on the European elections, Bernadette Ségal said: *“The voters have sent a warning to all mainstream and governing parties. European citizens are fed up with unemployment, austerity and falling living standards. For citizens the crisis is not over. Saving the Euro was a start. But the real challenge is to get Europe’s 26 million unemployed back to work. Continued austerity is not the answer. Europe needs major investment at EU and national level to drive sustainable growth and job creation. The European Parliament must insist on deciding who becomes President of the European Commission”.*



[More information](#)

### TTIP must work for the people, or it won’t work at all



Leaders of the ETUC and American Federation of Labor – Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO) called for a “gold standard” EU-US trade deal that improves living and working conditions on both sides of the Atlantic. *“European and American trade unionists are united in supporting a free trade deal between the EU and US only if it promotes workers’ rights, generates quality jobs, upholds public services and procurement, democratic decision making and international conventions”* said Bernadette Ségal.

[More information](#)

### Spring forecast

#### EU economy far from healthy

The European Commission recently released his spring 2014 economic forecast by announcing that Europe is experiencing signs of recovery. According to Veronica Nilsson, ETUC Confederal Secretary *“the European economy is far from healthy. Recent forecasts show no significant fall in unemployment. With 26 million unemployed, and unemployment rates forecast to go from 10.5% this year to 10.1% next – it is hard to see in what sense there is real recovery. The levels of unemployment, poverty and inequality in the European Union today are a disgrace and should be worrying the European Commission far more than they seem to.”*

[More information](#)

### Canada-EU trade deal

#### Trojan horse for contested ISDS?

The EU-Canada trade agreement should not be used as a ‘Trojan horse’ to smuggle in a controversial Investor-to-State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) warned the ETUC. *“This*

*looks like a cynical attempt to create a fait accompli for the EU-US trade talks" said Bernadette Ségal "and to undermine opposition to ISDS."*

[More information](#)

### **Coal mine disaster in Soma, Turkey**

Commenting on the coal mine disaster in Soma, Turkey, where over 200 miners lost their lives, Bernadette Ségal said: *"My heart goes out to the miners and their families. They have suffered a devastating loss of life."*

[More information](#)

### **100 best practices for gender equality at work**

#### **A toolkit for gender equality in practice**

A 'toolkit' of initiatives to promote gender equality was recently launched in a joint initiative by European employers and trade union organisations. The European social partners signed a [Framework of Actions on Gender Equality](#) in 2005 to promote gender equality. The toolkit outlines some of the successful initiatives of the organisations' members to achieve this. [About 100 initiatives from 25 European countries are contained in the online toolkit accessible here.](#)



[More information](#)

### **Tweet of the month**



*"the strength of trade unions in Europe is their unity"*  
said @bernadettesegol @etuc\_ces at #ituc14 congress



### **Facebook post of the month**

["A new way forward for Europe. Op-Ed by Bernadette Ségal on Equal Times. In the months following the European elections, Europe will have many challenges to face. For too long now European citizens and workers have been calling for social justice, social dialogue and solidarity to be placed at the heart of decision-making."](#)





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