

**Van:** ETUC - CES MEDIA <media@etuc.org>**Aan:** veerle.solia@amsab.be**Datum:** 05/06/2008 05:26 PM**Onderwerp:** The European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) launched a campaign 'On the Offensive for stronger European Works Councils'

On 1 May, the European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) launched a campaign '[On the Offensive for stronger European Works Councils](#),' calling for revision of the EWC Directive, which governs one of the most important mechanisms for worker consultation in the European Union.

The original 1994 Directive should have been revised some eight years ago, and the ETUC has long been pressing for it to be updated and strengthened, particularly in the light of recent cases of company restructuring where managements have failed to consult workers and trade unions.



In February the European Commission invited the European social partners to start negotiations on how the directive should be revised. But the ETUC's exploratory talks with BusinessEurope revealed no realistic basis for agreement. The ETUC has therefore called on the European Commission to act, putting forward a revised draft that will enforce workers' rights as intended.

As part of our ongoing campaign throughout the summer, the ETUC is issuing twice-weekly information sheets emphasising the reasons why EWCs must be strengthened. We are pleased to attach the [first of these bulletins](#), and urge you to examine and act on the information.

On 9-10 June, in Brussels, the ETUC and its partners are holding a conference at which members of a number of EWCs will present their experiences and views to representatives of the European Commission and Parliament. We will keep you informed of other events as they occur.

**For more information :**

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