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Onderwerp: Europe PLC must not be misused to evade codecision

EUROPE PLC MUST NOT BE MISUSED TO EVADE CODECISION

30 November 2009



With regard to the Council meeting on 4 December, the European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) declares that the present draft statute for the European private company is inappropriate and therefore is rejected by the ETUC.

European Trade Union Confederation [ETUC]
Confédération européenne des syndicats [CES]

The most severe economic crisis since the second world war has shown that businesses with high standards of codecision and participation are better at safeguarding jobs and more successful at crisis resolution! This makes it incomprehensible that the current proposal from the Swedish Presidency of the EU Council makes entirely inadequate provisions for securing workers' codecision rights. This applies most particularly to the EU Member States which already provide high standards of codecision in businesses with more than 25 or 50 employees. The different codecision cultures are completely ignored by the Swedish Presidency of the EU Council. In addition, no effective precautions against the potential danger of 'codecision evasion' are provided. Separate administrative and commercial headquarters are nothing short of an invitation to evade codecision.

'The economic crisis has specifically shown that we need binding *codecision standards in European company law*', says Reiner Hoffmann, ETUC deputy General Secretary.

The ETUC exists to speak with a single voice, on behalf of the common interests of workers, at European level. Founded in 1973, it now represents 82 trade union organisations in 36 European countries, plus 12 industry-based federations.

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