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Onderwerp: "The EU risks becoming the new President Hoover " - says the ETUC

**« THE EU RISKS BECOMING THE NEW
PRESIDENT HOOVER » - SAYS THE ETUC**

Brussels, 14 May 2010



The European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) has written today to President Barroso asking him to convene an emergency

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

Tripartite Social Summit in view of the austerity packages being applied in Greece, Spain, Portugal, Romania and elsewhere. These packages reflect elements of the tough conditions decided on recently by the European authorities, conditions which are even harder than those being applied by the IMF in other cases of this kind.

John Monks, General Secretary of the European Trade Union Confederation, said

"Unless the conditions of EU aid are eased intelligently, the EU risks being the new President Hoover who applied austerity measures in a recession in the 1930s and triggered the Great Depression. The EU conditions are harsh and deflationary and will cause rises in unemployment and social tension. We need a more sensitive, less rigid approach from our European leaders to reconcile growth and debt repayment if Europe is to avoid a double dip recession."

[Letter to President Barroso, President of the European Commission](#)

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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