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15 June 2010

The European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) warns the European Council taking place on 17 and 18 June next

against the austerity measures adopted by several EU countries. These measures risk killing the growth and having serious social consequences for the European citizens who continue to pay the cost of the crisis.

In a letter addressed to the European Heads of State and Government, John Monks, General Secretary of the ETUC, strongly warned against the austerity measures being applied in most EU countries.

Said John Monks: *"The European political leaders have, in our view, given in to panic mainly under the pressure of the financial markets. This panic will hit hard an already weakened economy and carries the risk of a European-wide dive into recession. Such measures of synchronized cuts was the policy followed by the US President Hoover in 1931 with the disastrous consequences that we all know".*

[Letter to Heads of State and Government](#)

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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For more information :

Patricia Grillo.

ETUC Head of Press and Communications

+ 32 (0)2 224 04 30

+ 32 (0)477 7 7 0 1 64

E-mail : Pgrillo@etuc.org

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