**Van:** Media@etuc.org <Media@etuc.org>
**Aan:** veerle.solia@amsab.be
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**Onderwerp:** EU pensions Green Paper: "Unrealistic" says ETUC

# EU PENSIONS GREEN PAPER: "UNREALISTIC" SAYS ETUC

7 July 2010

Commentary on the pensions green paper issued today by the European Commission:

John Monks, General Secretary of the European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC), said *"Where is the evidence that employers want to keep older workers in work? We know the life expectation is rising but see no evidence that a higher age of retirement would be matched by employers developing workplaces which encourage older workers to remain at work. Indeed the prevailing philosophy among too many employers is that older workers are too set in their ways to match rapidly changing work environments and should be encouraged to leave early, well below existing statutory retirement ages. This makes the Commission's ideas for higher retirement ages look unrealistic. They might more usefully provide that workers can stay in their jobs until the statutory age".*

**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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