

**ETUC PRESS RELEASE**

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**THE ETUC SUPPORTS THE  
GENERAL STRIKE IN GREECE  
AGAINST TIGHTER AUSTERITY  
MEASURES**

7 February 2012

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

***The Steering Committee of the European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC), meeting today, expressed support for the general strike being held today under the leadership of the GSEE and ADEDY, the two Greek trade union organisations affiliated to the ETUC. The strike was decided on following the new budget austerity measures demanded by Greece's creditors (the European Union and the International Monetary Fund).***

ETUC General Secretary Bernadette Ségol commented: "The new austerity package being discussed to avoid a default by Greece is unacceptable. Greek workers and citizens have been pushed to the limit of what is acceptable in terms of restrictions. Successive austerity plans have plunged the country ever deeper into crisis. The new measures being considered are simply not defensible: reduction in the minimum wage, cuts in supplementary pensions and immediate job cuts in the public service. Labour law is being flouted and men and women are being crushed in the process. We warn all those who are putting pressure on Greece or justifying such pressure: workers cannot take any more."

*The European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) speaks 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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