

Greece: bailout comes with drastic conditions for the population

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GREECE: BAILOUT COMES WITH DRASTIC CONDITIONS FOR THE POPULATION



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

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The new € 237 billion rescue plan for Greece does admittedly save the country from defaulting on its payment, but it does nothing to resolve definitively and positively the plight of Greece's citizens and workers. The European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) regrets that this aid has been granted at the price of an unbearable burden on the Greek population.

ETUC General Secretary Bernadette Ségal declared: "Implementation of the new rescue plan for Greece will be fraught with consequences for workers and citizens. The country is in recession and successive austerity plans are creating an untenable economic and social situation for a growing share of the population. The aid package granted to Greece today enables it to avoid default, but it comes with conditions, since the government was obliged to adopt a new austerity plan to achieve savings of € 3 billion. There can be no solution in the absence of solidarity. For the European trade union movement, such solidarity requires determined action, direct or indirect, by the European Central Bank, and the creation of Euro-bonds."

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 84 trade union organisations in 36 European countries, plus 12 industry-based federations.

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