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**European Trade Union Confederation [ETUC]
Confédération européenne des syndicats [CES]****ETUC SAYS NO TO A REGULATION THAT UNDERMINES THE RIGHT TO STRIKE**

21 March 2012

The European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) rejects the proposal for a "Monti II" regulation adopted this morning by the European Commission. Unfortunately, the Commission proposals fall short of correcting the problems brought about by the Viking and Laval cases. "The right to take collective action is a fundamental right which must be guaranteed", said Bernadette Ségal, ETUC General Secretary.

Although the ETUC welcomes measures to improve the implementation of the Posting of Workers Directive, we consider that the new enforcement directive is too weak, in particular regarding the possibility to hold a contractor liable.

President Barroso committed himself to take the necessary measures to fight social dumping. The proposals on the table are still very far from meeting this goal.

The ETUC wants a social contract for the European Union where all workers fully enjoy their fundamental rights. The ETUC does not support an economic system where competition invades all spheres of society and undermines social progress.

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

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