

## ETUC Press Release

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To: Veerle Solia

### Doha COP 18: ETUC calls on climate negotiators to put Just Transition into action!

***As the latest round of international climate talks start in Qatar, the so-called COP 18, European trade unions are calling on international negotiators to raise their ambitions to reach a global, binding and comprehensive agreement to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and guarantee a socially just transition towards an energy and resource efficient society.***

Moreover, unions are using the occasion of the talks to raise the violation of fundamental workers' rights in Qatar. Migrant workers, who make up a 94% majority of the Qatari workforce, lack basic labour and human rights, are systematically exploited, often work in health threatening conditions, and may be expelled for forming a trade union. For example, Qatar has refused to ratify ILO Convention 87: Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948. Qatar is also the world's largest per capita emitter and has been a barrier in climate negotiations.

As in all their external relations, the European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) demands that the EU and member states raise these concerns with the Qatari hosts and ensure that the importance of human rights (including workers' rights), Just Transition and Decent Work are central in their dialogue with the COP 18 organising team.

The ETUC position on the talks is available here: <http://www.etuc.org/a/10041>

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