

**Van:** Etuc-Ces Media <media=etuc.org@mail175.wdc02.mcdlv.net> namens Etuc-Ces Media <media@etuc.org>  
**Verzonden:** vrijdag 1 maart 2013 12:11  
**Aan:** Veerle Solia  
**Onderwerp:** ETUC Press release: EPSCO: The EU urgently needs a social ambition commensurate with its citizen's expectations

ETUC Press release

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## ETUC WELCOMES ADOPTION OF A YOUTH GUARANTEE BY EPSCO COUNCIL

1 March 2013

***The Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs Council (EPSCO) adopted the Youth Guarantee yesterday. The European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) welcomes this decision which guarantees that every young person will get the offer of a quality job, additional training, apprenticeship or an internship within four months of leaving school or after starting his/her unemployment period. The Youth Guarantee also offers some financial support, even if insufficient to cover all needs.***

The adoption of the Youth Guarantee shows the priority given to fighting youth unemployment. The cost of doing nothing was estimated at €153 billion by Eurofound and this will make all stakeholders take their share of responsibility.

Patrick Itschert, ETUC Deputy General Secretary declared: “*the adoption of the Youth Guarantee is good news. Europe spent hundreds of billions to save its banks; it was high time that it looked after its young people and their future. Another piece of good news: €6 billion will be allocated to measures for the benefit of young people. It is still not enough, but it is certainly a step in the right direction at a time when Europe is criticised from every quarter. The real problems nonetheless remain job creation and quality jobs. For that, investments and a social contract are needed.*

***The European Trade Union Confederation (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 10 industry-based federations. The ETUC is also on [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#) and [Flickr](#).*

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**More information:**

Patricia Grillo  
Head of Press and Communication  
Tel: + 32 (0)2 224 04 30 – GSM: + 32 (0)477 77 01 64  
@: [Pgrillo@etuc.org](mailto:Pgrillo@etuc.org)

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