

Van: Etuc-Ces Media <media=etuc.org@mail50.atl11.rsgsv.net> namens Etuc-Ces Media <media@etuc.org>
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Aan: Veerle Solia
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CONCLUSIONS OF THE JUNE COUNCIL: AN EMPTY TEXT, far from their PROMISES, far from our EXPECTATIONS?

20/06/2013

The European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) has heard from the press about the draft conclusions prepared beforehand for the upcoming European Council of 27 and 28 June. This draft is empty, short on promises and short on the expectations of workers and citizens.

The European Council of December 2012 announced a roadmap that would deal in particular, with the social dimension of economic and monetary union, including the social dialogue.

The draft conclusions that have been leaked completely ignore the objective that had been set by the EU 27. The text has a hollow wording and proposes nothing new or concrete. The demand for structural reforms, on the other hand, is back on track as an act of faith.

The European Trade Union calls on political leaders to accept their responsibility. The European Council must not be turned into a media show.

The ETUC reiterates its call for:

- a) a plan to stimulate growth and employment amounting to 1% - 2% of the European Union's GDP;
- b) a change in economic policies that are geared towards austerity;
- c) transparent social indicators;
- d) minimum welfare benefits;

- e) a strong social dialogue at the European as well as the national level;
- f) measures to put a stop to social and wage dumping and deregulation.

ETUC General Secretary Bernadette Ségal stated: *"I cannot believe that the heads of state and governments are going to endorse a text that makes no headway and in no way responds to the expectations of the people of Europe. Europe cannot surrender to national demands. It would be better to have no conclusions at all than this hollow jargon. I made this point yesterday to the President of the French Republic and I will make it again to all the political leaders I am going meeting in the next few days."*

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 [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#) and [Flickr](#).

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More information:

Press and Communication Department
Tel: + 32 (0)2 224 04 31/2
@: media@etuc.org

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