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ETUC Press release

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## **ETUC says NO to deregulation and attacks on workers' rights**

Brussels, 2/10/2013

***Today the European Commission published its Communication “Refit – fit for growth”. The European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) deplores the deregulatory approach followed by the Commission and says “no” to attacks on workers’ rights.***

There will be no new programme on Health and Safety, the agreement reached by social partners in the field of health and safety for hairdressers is blocked; the Commission wants to weaken legislation on information and consultation of workers and make it more favourable to business. In addition, the Commission announces a review of important legislation on part time work, and fixed term contracts, which are the result of negotiation between social partners. Also under scrutiny for downsizing are legislation on information on employment contract and temporary agency work.

In the past the Commission was producing social programmes to move our societies upwards. ETUC is appalled at the current lack of initiatives to establish or strengthen a level playing field for workers’ protection.

Bernadette Ségol said: *“The internal market is only acceptable if implemented with strong social rules. The Commission’s refit programme is blocking all progress in that direction. We need social rights across the board for all EU workers. The social dimension of the EU with its indicators is not meeting this objective.”*

***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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