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Onderwerp: ETUC Press release: The EU has not fulfilled its promise on the social dimension

ETUC Press release

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ETUC: The EU has not fulfilled its promise on the social dimension

To relaunch the EU economies far more ambitious policies are needed

20/12/2013

The European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) is bitterly disappointed by the European Council's conclusion concerning the social dimension of the EMU. The EU needs a social dimension in order to counter the downward competition on wages, working and living conditions of the internal market. Workers and citizens want to live in a society which cares for its people, not just the market.

The June 2012 growth pact will not relaunch growth and employment. After 18 months in operation, employment remains at over 12%, and youth unemployment is rocketing as high as 60% in some member states. The EIB's lending capacity should be multiplied by 4 and invested in European projects for sustainable development, particularly in countries in difficulty. There must be democratic control over the attribution and use of these funds.

The ETUC reiterates its view that contractual arrangements between the EU and individual countries must be democratically requested by Member States and not conditioned by a narrow implementation of labour market reforms; the ETUC unambiguously rejects Troïka-type contracts imposed on individual countries.

ETUC General Secretary Bernadette Ségol said: *"The EU Council continues to spin its usual rhetoric; the truth is that it has not delivered on the social dimension, nor has it delivered on investments for sustainable growth and quality jobs. ETUC demands more action and less spin - ETUC demands a New Path for Europe".*

- **ETUC New Path For Europe:** <http://www.etuc.org/a/11715>

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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