

## EU Council: ETUC demands urgent and constructive solutions for the people (6.12.11)

***Given the immediate danger of recession, The European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) sent a letter to the EU leaders, ahead of the European Council, to express serious concerns about finding urgent and constructive solutions to save millions of people from unemployment and poverty.***

In the letter the ETUC stresses that the European leaders must find solutions first and foremost that serves the people, giving urgent priorities to investment for sustainable growth. ETUC is open to far-reaching action by the European Central bank (ECB) , support in the form of Eurobonds, a financial transaction tax, fair taxation with the abolition of tax havens. The ETUC considers that in the current situation changing the Treaty is not an immediate priority “We do not accept that the changes we understand are being discussed can be disguised as technical amendments” declares ETUC General Secretary Bernadette Ségol. The ETUC insists on being heard in the process. if any decision to modify the Treaty is taken.

- ETUC letter: [http://www.etuc.org/IMG/pdf051211\\_EU\\_Heads\\_of\\_State\\_and\\_Government-President\\_Barroso-President\\_Van\\_Rompuy.pdf](http://www.etuc.org/IMG/pdf051211_EU_Heads_of_State_and_Government-President_Barroso-President_Van_Rompuy.pdf)

The 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 84 trade union organisations in 36 European countries, plus 12 industry-based federations.