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## **SOLIDAR's 10 priorities for 2009 – 2014: We need a new direction for Europe!**

**SOLIDAR calls upon the new European Parliament and Commission to decide upon a new direction for Europe in both its internal and external policies. In order to do this, SOLIDAR has defined 10 priorities for the next 5 years. This new direction is needed in order to change the often devastating social realities in Europe and the rest of the world, which are only likely to increase as a consequence of the current economic crisis.**

Together with the new European Parliament and Commission, SOLIDAR wants to work for a new Social Europe, Decent Work for all and to ensure that everyone can enjoy a life lived in dignity. In order to achieve these objectives, SOLIDAR suggests setting up a social impact assessment of all European internal and external policies, with concrete benchmarks to ensure – amongst others – sustainable economic growth, more and better jobs, social welfare, gender equality and anti-discrimination.

The European Union has to 'put people first': single income parents who are unable to buy school books for their children, workers in precarious situations with diminished rights or job security, migrants who are discriminated against, elderly people who have insufficient pensions to afford primary necessities, and internally displaced people who fled their community because of devastating natural or man-made disasters.

Putting people first is an opportunity for Europe to place more emphasis on the basic values of the Union – respect for human dignity, liberty, democracy, equality and respect for human rights – and ensure that nobody is left behind.

Please find attached **10 deliverables for 2009 – 2014** for the new European Parliament and Commission.

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*SOLIDAR is a European network of 53 NGOs active in over 90 countries working to advance social justice in Europe and worldwide. SOLIDAR lobbies the EU and international institutions in three primary areas: social affairs (more social Europe), international cooperation (development cooperation) and education (lifelong learning for all). For more info [www.solidar.org](http://www.solidar.org)*