

Dear members and friends of SOLIDAR,

The summer months are finally upon us and I think I can safely say that we are all looking forward to a good break before coming back fully-charged for a busy autumn session...

SOLIDAR has already launched a briefing paper: [A new direction for Europe: 10 priorities for the new Parliament and Commission](#). We will further this work with the European institutions in autumn by carrying out **5 expert round tables in the European Parliament** on our core topics of social services; decent work in Europe; migration and education; decent work and trade; and social protection and development.

Another date for your diaries: **7 October - the World Day for Decent Work** - which this year will be handing over the thousands of signatures from around the world supporting the Decent Work concept to key decision makers in Europe and international institutions. SOLIDAR alongside our partners in the Decent Work Alliance will be organising a worldwide stunt, so make sure that you don't miss it!

Today, SOLIDAR also launched our new project '**Decent Work for All: A Key for Effective Industrial Relations**' at a conference with guest speakers from the International Labour Organisation, the European Parliament, the European Commission and the European Public Services Union. This grouping shows once again the pivotal role that SOLIDAR plays as a bridge-builder between European institutions, trade unions, and civil society organisations from the social and development sectors (read more below).

A few key moments over the past week have been addressing the **informal meeting of Employment, Social Affairs, Health and Consumer Ministers** in Sweden, in my capacity of President of the Social Platform, voicing the message that for social NGOs, Europe is about solidarity, social inclusion and how the most vulnerable can be integrated, not just in the labour market, but in society (read more below).

And SOLIDAR was also present at the [Gsott8](#) pre-G8 mobilisation event in Sardegna, organised by our Italian member Arci. This very impressive coalition of NGOs brought a strong message to the G8 summit, to bring the economy, democracy and politics back to the needs of the local community whose needs and resources are usually destroyed by the model of development in which we live.

In the autumn, we will use the opportunity to work together with progressive and democratic political forces to change the current paradigm and advocate for a new **Lisbon Agenda** focusing on social cohesion and not on economic growth.

The Weekly Round Up is also going on holiday over the summer and will be back at the end of August.

Yours in solidarity!

Conny Reuter, Secretary General

SWEDISH PRESIDENCY OF EU

Conny Reuter, in his capacity as President of Social Platform, represented social NGOs at the informal meeting of Employment, Social Affairs, Health and Consumer Ministers in Sweden this week, "Europe is about solidarity, social inclusion and how the most vulnerable can be integrated, not just in the labour market, but in society", he stated. He went on to highlight and provide recommendations in three priority areas for social NGOs: anti-discrimination policies, job creation and relations with EU citizens. [Read more...](#)

SOCIAL AFFAIRS

SOLIDAR LAUNCHES NEW PROJECT ON DECENT WORK IN EUROPE

At the kick-off conference held this morning in the presence of [project partners](#) and guest speakers Rudi Delarue from the International Labour Organisation, Frank Siebern-Thomas from DG Employment, Jan Cremers - former Member of the European Parliament, and Penny Clark from the

European Public Services Union, Conny Reuter opened the conference by saying "decent work is more important than ever in this time of crisis and continued investment in social protection is vital".

The project, funded by the European Commission's DG Employment, entitled 'Decent Work for All: A Key for Effective Industrial Relations' aims to gain a better understanding of the link between decent work for all and effective social dialogue in view of reinforcing the European Social Model, and the necessity to place decent work at the centre of EU measures to counteract the current financial and economic crisis. [Read more...](#)

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION SUPPORT FOR HONDURAS

Following the recent events in Honduras, we invite you to join a call to European governments to maintain their condemnation of the coup d'Etat, and suspend all commercial and diplomatic relations with the new government represented de facto by the deputy Roberto Micheletti. To support this call, you can send this [draft letter](#) to your national Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

MEMBERS NEWS

This week in the **Members Area**: read what the Lisbon Treaty will mean for the EU institutions and the next steps for the new European Parliament. Don't have a password, contact [Abigail](#)

Read **Solidaridad internacional**'s [newsletter](#)

Read **Arci**'s [newsletter](#) with articles about the Gsott8 meeting

Read **COCIS** [press release](#) on 'Demands of farmers platforms towards G8 - 1 billion people cannot wait'

PARTNERS NEWS

MEP AWARDS 2009 - LAST CHANGE TO NOMINATE

This is your opportunity to recognise and reward the outstanding work of European parliamentarians over the past year across fourteen policy areas.

Click [here](#) to submit your nomination online.

SOLIDAR partner in France, **Les Francas**, has launched the 2009 edition of the [international poster competition](#) 'Agis pour tes droits' is celebrating the 20th year of the International Convention of Children's Rights.

3	SOLIDAR Middle East Working Group, Brussels
8-9	EPSCO Council, Sweden
9-10	Kick-off meeting: Decent Work for all: The Key for Effective Industrial Relations, Brussels

SOLIDAR is a European network of 53 NGOs and labour movement organisations. Working in cooperation with progressive civil society and trade unions, SOLIDAR promotes equality, solidarity and social justice in the fields of social affairs, international cooperation and education. SOLIDAR's Weekly Round Up provides you with the latest information and news from the SOLIDAR Network. If you have any comments or wish to have further information on any of the articles featured in the Weekly Round Up, please do not hesitate to contact [SOLIDAR's Communications Officer](#)

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