

Today the European Parliament approved the appointment of José Manuel Barroso as President of the European Commission for a second term. He takes on this huge responsibility in the midst of the crisis and all of its social consequences. These difficult times require true leadership for Europe. Despite the weak proposals put forward by President Barroso in his manifesto, SOLIDAR urges the new president to take concrete action for decent work and quality jobs, better social protection in the world and promoting social services. [Read SOLIDAR's 10 priorities for the new Commission](#)

The global financial crisis is affecting every aspect of our lives, threatening jobs, savings, pensions and public services everywhere. The Global Progressive Forum has therefore started a campaign for real reform in our banking and financial system. SOLIDAR will be present at the launch on Monday, as part of a coalition of progressive forces supporting the campaign. Let's Regulate Global Finance Now!

Conny Reuter, Secretary General

## INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

### MUDDYING MURKY WATERS - SOLIDAR RESPONDS TO EC COMMUNICATION ON PCD

SOLIDAR responded to the European Commission's Communication Policy Coherence for Development (PCD) - Establishing the policy framework for a whole-of-the-Union approach released this week. SOLIDAR's main concerns are regarding the narrowing down of the PCD thematic areas as some of the Commission's most damaging policies for development actually come from its trade and investment strategy, Global Europe. Our second main concern is about a well-hidden paragraph on ODA (overseas Development Assistance)-plus in which we fear the Commission is laying down foundations for further backsliding on internationally agreed commitments. [Read the full statement...](#)

### EU LEADERS MUST PUSH FOR CRUCIAL POINTS AT G20

Yesterday, European leaders attended an extraordinary summit in Brussels to agree on some common principles before the G20 summit taking place next week in Pittsburgh. The G20 has not delivered on the pledges that it had agreed to, and the regulation of commodity price speculation and tax havens is slow and insufficient.

SOLIDAR would like to see the EU push on the following three topics: closing down tax havens and ending banking secrecy; mobilising resources for developing countries in need through instituting a transactions tax and other measures on commodity and financial speculation, a step which was put forward by the German Finance Minister this week ([see text](#)); and finally, a reform of the international financial institutions. [Read final statement from Brussels summit...](#)

## SOCIAL AFFAIRS

### PUBLIC PROCUREMENT IN THE FIELD OF RESCUE SERVICES

SOLIDAR contributed to a workshop organised last Saturday at the 6th Samaritan International (SAINT) Forum on the impact of increased competition in the field of rescue services, emergency aid and sickness transport services for services providers, users and public authorities' tendering out of these services to NGOs and commercial providers. SOLIDAR's [contribution](#) summarised the main reasons for an increased importance of EU policy and legal frameworks and sketched out the relevant rules of Community law on public procurement. The main focus was on experiences with the application of public procurement in the field of social, health and employment services.

### TOGETHER FOR SOCIAL EUROPE: NATIONAL SEMINARS CONTINUE

This week SOLIDAR members FIC and CSV announced their national events organised in the framework of the [Together for Social Europe campaign](#). The Danish meeting by FIC will take place on the 22 September on the topic of '[Drop the barriers: stress - an individual or a collective responsibility?](#)' followed by the UK event which will take place on the 2 November on the value of volunteering (see [agenda](#) | [invitation](#)). [For further information about the other national seminars....](#)

## MEMBERS NEWS

On the SOLIDAR [Members Area](#) this week, sign up for the ICC, India, Middle East and West Africa Working Groups taking place in Paris at the beginning of October.

Spanish member, **MPDL**, is celebrating the [International World Day for Peace](#) on 21 September with a series of activities in Spain.

Volunteers who participated in **Solidaridad internacional**'s "Solidarity Holidays" will be holding a [photo exhibition](#) from 16-30 September in Torrejón de Ardoz.

## PARTNERS NEWS

SOLIDAR contributed to the latest edition of the **European Institute for Construction Labour Research (CLR)** newsletter with an [article](#) calling for a strengthened alliance between trade unions and civil society to combat the erosion of workers' rights.

Partner in Egypt, **CTUWS**, has released its 6th report on the [Impacts of the Global Financial Crisis on Labour Conditions](#) & read about the CTUWS General Coordinator [being subjected to aggressive measures](#) while he was leaving to USA to attend the AFL-CIO Constitutional Convention.

Partner in Israel, **Sawt el-Amel/The Laborer's Voice**, have released a [report](#) on three women textile workers from Gaza receiving a modest compensation from their former Israeli employer.

## JOBS

**SLA** are looking for a DIPECHO Technical Advisor for Mozambique. Read more in [EN](#) | [PT](#)

21	GPF: Press launch of the Europeans for Financial Reform
22	EUCIS-LLL Public Hearing: Lifelong Learning, a key to achieving Active European Citizenship, Brussels
24-26	G-20 Summit, Pittsburgh
28	Spring Alliance High-level Meeting, Brussels
28	SOLIDAR Board meeting, Brussels
29	INSSP Seminar: Impact of EU legislation on social services, Brussels
30	SOLIDAR India Working Group, Paris
1	SOLIDAR International Cooperation Committee, Paris
2	SOLIDAR West Africa Working Group, Paris
2	SOLIDAR Middle East Working Group, Paris
7	World Day for Decent Work, international
15-16	Round Table: Fight Against Poverty and Social Exclusion, Stockholm
17	SOLIDAR & WoW conference: CSR and Decent Work, Brussels
18-19	SOLIDAR Global Europe conference, 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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