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Onderwerp: SOLIDAR Weekly Round Up 02-10-2009

This week Commission President Barroso spoke to the Spring Alliance, responding to the [manifesto](#) by saying that it did inspire him and he did copy the slogan for his own guidelines. But is a copypaste enough? He repeated his renewed commitment to competition by saying that a "new model of growth is needed, a green and sustainable one" without any mention of the word social. SOLIDAR wants to see a rather different orientation for the post-Lisbon agenda: real policies putting people and the planet first, making Europe the most competitive region in the world in terms of social protection and social cohesion!

Next Wednesday - 7 October - together with the unions and other partners worldwide, we celebrate the second World Day for Decent Work. The ILO is forecasting that global unemployment will range from 219 to 241 million in 2009 - the highest level ever on record. With this in mind, the 'job at any price' and just 'jobs and growth' logic risks overcoming the aim of ensuring 'decent and quality jobs for all' which is the basis of sustainable development and growth. To exit the crisis, we must make sure that all jobs are quality jobs, that there is equal pay for equal work and no social or wage dumping.

Within the progressive political forces, organised social democratic parties have recently lost elections in countries where they gave up their progressive identity and agenda. We should not confuse the crisis of the parties with a crisis of ideas and ideas for preventing the crisis. Organisations like SOLIDAR and its members refer to social democratic ideals and objectives, we occupy our place in this family and will contribute to the debate of a "reloaded" left!

Conny Reuter, Secretary General

EVENTS NEXT WEEK

5 October: SOLIDAR, Eurodad and the Global Network will **launch the report** *Doing a decent job? IMF policies and decent work in times of crisis*. The report critically examines the situation faced by those most vulnerable in the wake of government cuts imposed by the IMF's tight fiscal policies in El Salvador, Ethiopia and Latvia.

7 October: The second **World Day for Decent Work**. The Decent Work Alliance will handover signatures gathered for the campaign to representatives from the European Parliament, Asia Development Bank, African Union, Organisation of American States, International Monetary Fund/World Bank and World Trade Organisation.

In Brussels, the Alliance will also be holding a **Decent Work game**: Come and join MEPs and representatives from NGOs and test your knowledge of what makes work decent and see if you can make it to the ultimate goal of having a decent life. Taking place in the European Parliament, 10.00-11.00, ASP building Ground Floor, zone G.

SOCIAL AFFAIRS

SOCIAL NGOs PUTTING EU POLICIES UNDER SCRUTINY

This week the informal network of social service providers organised a [seminar](#) on challenges related to the application of Community law to social, health, employment and education services. The main goal of the seminar was to collect first-hand evidence from the ground on where and how Community rules on public procurement and state aid as well as concepts and terms used by European institutions (such as mandate, concession) have a direct or indirect impact on the organisation, regulation, delivery and in particular financing of social, health and employment.

Examples presented and discussed came from a broad range of sectors and many EU member states illustrated still existing legal uncertainties and a number of problems for providers and users that might endanger the quality of the services, put pressure on working conditions and risk a sustainable financing. SOLIDAR members ASB, AWO, CSV and Volkshilfe Österreich contributed with examples mainly on the impact of public procurement in the fields of rescue services/emergency medical services, services for people with disabilities and care and housing services for asylum seekers. [Read about the next steps...](#)

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

SUPPORT FOR THE PHILIPPINES

On 26 September, parts of Luzon including Metro Manila, the main urban center of the Philippines, were hit by typhoon Ondoy. Thousands of Filipinos, mostly from urban poor areas,

suffered from huge floods, the worst in Metro Manila since 1967. More than 240 people died, and many are still missing. Almost 320,000 people were displaced or have lost their homes, many of them cramped in evacuation centers without food and water. Relief goods such as food, water, medicine, clothes, blankets, beddings, etc. as well as school supplies are urgently needed especially in urban poor communities. [Read more from our partner in the Phillipines, LEARN...](#)

WAC IN BRUSSELS

Roni Ben Efrat from the Israeli Workers Advice Centre (WAC) visited the SOLIDAR offices this week. She talked to SOLIDAR about WAC's work and their annual art exhibition, Bread and Roses, which brings together Jewish and Arab female artists. [Read more...](#)

MEMBERS NEWS

Read [Solidarité Socialiste's newsletter](#) and [support](#) the reconstruction in Burkina Faso after the torrential rains.

Read [ARCI's newsletter](#)

[War on Want](#) are looking for a [Senior Fundraising Officer](#)

PARTNERS NEWS

The [European Women's Lobby](#) has released a statement on women and the financial crisis in [EN](#) | [FR](#)

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
20	Conference: Migration and Education, Brussels
4	SOLIDAR Round Table: social services and volunteering, Brussels
17	CSR and Decent Work conference, Brussels
18-19	SOLIDAR conference: The jobs trade off: the impact of Global Europe on decent work, European Parliament, Brussels
22-24	Baltic Sea Conference, Bornholm (Denmark)
2	SOLIDAR Round Table: social/active inclusion and decent work in Europe, Brussels
3	SOLIDAR Social Affairs Committee, 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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