

## EU NEEDS TO STEP UP EFFORTS AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE

Next week, governments will meet in Copenhagen to discuss the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (7-18 December). For us, it is the social dimension of climate change which presents the biggest challenge. The effects of global warming are hitting the developing world and most vulnerable population hardest, and developed countries must assume their historic responsibility in this ecological crisis supporting developing countries for adaptation and mitigation.

SOLIDAR calls on the EU to take a leading role in the negotiations, by setting ambitious greenhouse gas emission reduction targets of 40% by 2020 and committing to finance climate change with a minimum of ?35 billion a year for developing countries' adaptation needs, **in addition** to existing developing aid commitments, within an independent funding structure that is accountable to the UNFCCC.

Copenhagen must mark the beginning of a political reality that recognises the injustice of climate change and protects the rights of people to development now and in the future!

Conny Reuter, Secretary General

## SOCIAL POLICY

### SECOND ROUND TABLE HELD ON DECENT WORK AND QUALITY JOBS IN EUROPE

On Wednesday, SOLIDAR carried out the second in a [series of Round Tables](#) in the European Parliament, on the topic of Decent Work and Quality Jobs in Europe. The event, hosted by Jean Lambert (Greens, UK), attracted MEPs, and representatives from the European Commission and social NGOs. Speakers included the host, Pervenche Berès (S&D, France), along with speakers from SOLIDAR members in Romania ([ADO SAH ROM](#)) and Austria ([Volkshilfe](#)) who highlighted the problems that posted workers and sex workers face in their respective countries.

The main points that came out of the event was a request to the Commission to follow up on the Active Inclusion Recommendation and draft an EP report on the topic; a request for clear commitments and targets for anti-poverty policies from the European Year 2010; the necessity to address different forms of precarious labour; a better protection of core labour rights in the internal market; and that employment creation and working conditions are fully in line with socially-responsible public procurement.

The [Report from the first Round Table on Social Services and Volunteering](#) is now also available.

### SOLIDAR WANTS DECENT WORK & QUALITY EMPLOYMENT AS TOP PRIORITY IN EU 2020 STRATEGY

Just after the Commission launched its belated consultation on the EU's 2020 strategy, SOLIDAR responded with [16 recommendations](#) to make decent work and quality jobs a reality in Europe. With 80 million people living in or at risk of poverty in the EU, including 19 million working poor, the economic crisis will continue to have negative impacts over the next 3 to 5 years, in particular for economically vulnerable and socially excluded people. To tackle these issues, SOLIDAR requests that the Commission makes quality employment and social cohesion top priorities of the strategy.

Specifically, SOLIDAR recommends firstly, developing a European Employment Guideline that specifically deals with active inclusion and the inclusion of people with multiple needs; secondly, further developing the Barcelona targets on child care further developed as to improve the conditions for reconciling work with family and private life; and thirdly introducing targets for quality jobs and decent work to cover workers in standard and non-standard employment and to strengthen measures to improve qualifications and competences through vocational training and lifelong learning.

## INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

### JOIN THE CALL TO ACTION TO RELEASE AMINATOU HAIDAR

In recent weeks, Members of the European Parliament, Representatives of European governments, European citizens and civil society organisations like SOLIDAR have publicly expressed their support to the [situation of Aminatou Haidar](#) who is presently entering her third week of hunger strike at

Lanzarote airport where she was deported to. The expulsion of Aminatou Haidar is the latest of a series of measures taken by the Moroccan authorities against Sahrawi human rights defenders and advocates of self-determination for the people of Western Sahara, which is putting the negotiation process in Western Sahara, as well as the stability of the region under severe threat.

There is an urgent need to act for Aminatou Haidar and the recent detention of several groups of Sahrawi activists. SOLIDAR has written an [open letter](#) to EU foreign ministers calling on them to immediately allow Aminatou to return to her country, the release of seven human rights activists and the unconditional respect of human rights in the region. Furthermore, SOLIDAR calls on SOLIDAR members and supporters to send this letter to foreign ministers ahead of the Association Council between the EU and Morocco on 7 December.

## EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT URGES MEMBER STATES TO RATIFY ILO CONVENTIONS

In a [resolution](#) adopted by a large majority on 26 November, the European Parliament showed its commitment in favour of a strong role of the EU in promoting fair globalisation with decent work for all, inside and outside the EU. As the EU treaties and 'acquis communautaire' do not include all issues covered by ILO Conventions (e.g. wages, labour inspection, social security minimum standards, modalities of freedom of association and collective bargaining), the European Parliament called on:

- Member States to ratify and implement the Conventions that have been classified by the ILO as up to date and
- the Commission to consider the adoption of a recommendation to the Member States to encourage the ratification of these Conventions.

### MEMBERS NEWS

**Auser** joins an Italian coalition called "In Marcia per il Clima" (On the march for the climate) aimed at increasing knowledge of and commitment for the climate theme. In many Italian squares, citizens will be informed by auser around the summit and they will be invited to sign our call for a real commitment of Italian government. Sign the call [here](#).

[Read](#) the **OGB-L** newsletter...

**SLA** is searching a [Country Representative for Sri Lanka](#), to contribute to SLA's work in supporting the IDPs in the North of Sri Lanka.

### PARTNERS NEWS

**ActionAid** is looking for a Europe Campaigns Coordinator...

**Bond for international development** is looking for a [Millennium Development Goals \(MDGs\) Advocacy Officer](#) based in London (temporary, 3 months)

[Read](#) The European Civil Society Platform on Lifelong Learning (**EUCIS-LLL**) newsletter...

**ITUC-CSI** invites you to the event "[We are Burma](#)" which will take place on 12 December in Brussels.

### AGENDA

2	SOLIDAR Round Table: social/active inclusion and decent work in Europe, Brussels
3	SOLIDAR Social Affairs Committee, Brussels
9-10	Global Network Europe Seminar, Belgrade

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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