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Advancing social justice in Europe and worldwide

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SOLIDAR Weekly Round Up 19-10-2012

Editorial: Trust in what? Trust in whom?

The European Council summit, which ended last night, saw an agreement on banking supervision and a decision on a

Single Supervisory Mechanism. Stability is necessary, but where were the safeguards for social stability? That concern made it all the more important for the Progressive Alliance to stand together as they did last night and coordinate their action with those Heads of State and institutional representatives of the PES family. If citizens are to have a real choice in the next European elections in 2014, the political alternatives must be made clearer. The road to recovery is not all about trust in the financial markets, as the German Chancellor keeps steadily repeating, it is about the trust of Europe's citizens in the ability of politicians to solve the crisis and the capacity of the European institutions to serve that aim.

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Burglaries at Three Anti-Tobacco NGOs in Brussels Could Be Related to Lobbying Activities by the Tobacco Industry

According to an article by the EU Observer the burglaries at three anti-tobacco NGOs in Brussels, which occurred yesterday, Thursday 18 October, could have been a tobacco industry attack. Several laptops and files containing confidential information were stolen in the course of the thefts. This incident could be related to the ongoing negotiations for a tough EU Tobacco control bill and a tobacco lobbying scandal involving Commissioner John Dalli, who had to step down this week over the accusations.

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Social Affairs

Event Report: Social Services crucial for Europe 2020 Objectives

This week, a [Round Table report](#) has been launched that brings forward the most relevant findings and messages of European parliamentarians and experts, who discussed how social services contribute to smart, sustainable and inclusive growth. The event was organised by [Social Services Europe](#), a European network of which SOLIDAR is a co-founder and which brings together nine Europe-wide networks of not-for-profit providers of social and health care services. One of the conclusions of the Round Table is that achieving the Europe 2020 objectives and notably smart, sustainable and inclusive growth decisively depends on social services.

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Social Innovation to Improve the Impact of Social Economy

Last week, the 'Social Economy' working group of the European Economic and Social Committee held a [meeting](#) to discuss social innovation in the social economy sector. SOLIDAR was invited to present the first results of INNOSERV, the FP7 project on innovative social services that SOLIDAR is implementing together with the University of Heidelberg.

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International Cooperation

Round Table: Mobilising for Freedom of Association - Human Rights Defenders tell their stories

SOLIDAR and the Global Network organised a round table on freedom of association on 17 October 2012 at the European Parliament in Brussels. The event was hosted by Richard Howitt, MEP. At the round table [human rights defenders](#) from all over the world gave testimony of violations to freedom of association. In addition representatives of SOLIDAR member organisations, European civil society and European decision makers discussed with the activists ways of increasing the support of the European Union to improve conditions for freedom of association.

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Migration

Roundtable: Protecting The Rights of Domestic Workers - What Is The Role Of The Eu?

In cooperation with the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) , SOLIDAR together with [the Global Network](#) advocates for the ratification of the ILO Convention 189 concerning decent work for domestic workers in the EU and worldwide through the [12 by 12 campaign](#). As such, the roundtable at the European Parliament on 17 October aimed to create political momentum for the ratification and to examine which role the EU can play in guaranteeing the labour and human rights of domestic workers, of whom many are women and migrants. The roundtable was followed by a [photo opportunity](#), in which Members of the European Parliament endorsed the ratification of the C189.

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Network News

Italian Member **Auser's** [new newsletter](#) is out.

See Italian member **ARCI's** [latest news](#).

Italian member **Lega Coop** [latest event](#).

Luxemburgish member **OGB-L's** [newsletter](#) is out.

Join **War on Want's** [march](#) for a future that works.

Partners News

Our Israeli partner organisation WAC has a [meeting report](#).

Read more about **CONCORD's activities** at the European Development Days.

Latest **Social Platform editorial** is out.

DEEEP has **news** for you.

Latest **press release** by **EUCIS LLL**.

ETUC latest **press release** is out.

Have a look at the latest **right2water news splash**.

Agenda

18-19 October: Global Network Steering Group

22-25 November Salon de l' Education

26-27 November: 4th Western Balkan Civil Society Forum in Zagreb, Croatia

26-28 November: Lifelong learning week

27 November: SOLIDAR-Eurofound Conference

SOLIDAR is a European network of 59 NGOs active in over 90 countries working to advance social justice in Europe and worldwide. SOLIDAR voices the concerns of its member organisations to the EU and international institutions across the policy sectors social affairs, international cooperation and lifelong learning. For more info www.solidar.org

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