

50
ANNIVERSARY

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EMERGENCY RESOLUTION ON EUROPEAN MOBILISATION

ADOPTED BY THE ETUC 15TH STATUTORY CONGRESS
(BERLIN, 23-26 MAY 2023)



TOGETHER FOR A
FAIR DEAL
FOR WORKERS

CONFEDERATION
**SYNDICAT
EUROPÉEN
TRADE UNION**

EMERGENCY RESOLUTION ON EUROPEAN MOBILISATION



After years of austerity policies, culminating in a catastrophic response to the 2008 global financial and economic crisis, the responses of the EU and its Member States to the social and economic consequences of the COVID pandemic have been more effective and solidarity-based.

The current proposal by the Commission to review economic governance and the Growth and Stability Pact risks pushing our national systems towards restrictive policies that hinder the necessary economic and social investments. The European trade union movement is called to mobilize in the fight for solidarity, for European financial instruments that support sustainable growth, employment and for an economy that gives concrete results to workers, for higher wages and quality jobs, for greater social protection, for investments in quality public services that guarantee citizenship rights, for strong collective bargaining and for social dialogue, for the rights of trade unions and workers, for an increase in public investments in industrial conversions, for a fiscal policy just and redistributive.

Europe's inadequate responses to the economic consequences of the Russian aggression against Ukraine and the growing cost-of-living crisis, as well as the lack of social conditionality in the European Green Deal Industrial Plan, threaten to undo the progress achieved in recent times and demonstrate a lack of solidarity.

Meanwhile, real wages went down dramatically and actual wages lag way behind inflation, essentially driven by extra profits and not by wage increases. Real wages of a majority of workers had already declined in the Corona crisis. We haven't seen such a disastrous development in a long time. By massively decreasing wages, a huge redistribution from labour to capital is taking place. The damage of this cost-of-living crisis has been exacerbated by attacks on trade union rights and working conditions, while attempts to criminalize international trade union solidarity are increasingly worrying.

In recent months, workers and pensioners have taken to the streets across Europe with the same objectives:

for wage increases, for safe and dignified and stable and no longer precarious work, for public investments, for fair pensions, for the defence of education, health, care and public services, for a fair tax system that takes away from who is richer, who speculates; for equal rights and wages between men and women, especially as women have been disproportionately impacted by austerity and cuts; for a new model of European development based on just transition, social justice, equity, inclusion, true democracy starting from the workplace.

On these objectives, the 15th Statutory Congress of the ETUC meeting in Berlin decides to promote a path of mobilization and actions starting from the month of June with various national initiatives leading up in the autumn to a day of European mobilisation.

The members of the Secretariat and of the ETUC Presidency elected by this Congress will also actively participate in these initiatives, so as to give strength and unity to European trade union action.