

# NO TO AUSTERITY GOVERNANCE

## YES TO A SOCIAL EUROPEAN UNION BASED ON SOLIDARITY

**Governing Europe means giving higher priority to employment and social justice. Governing Europe also means refusing precarious employment and competitive wage reductions.**

In the face of a financial crisis which has plunged Europe into its worst situation for several decades, with over 23 million people unemployed, particularly young people, the only response from the European politicians has been to adopt austerity measures, and press down on wages, public services, social security, pensions and working and living conditions.

Even worse, with the plan for economic governance that is due to be voted by the European Parliament at the end of June, those same European leaders are proposing nothing other than a 'European law' to curb wages, social spending and public services.

The ETUC denounces this austerity governance and calls for a radical change in the European Union's approach, so that it starts offering effective aid to the countries in difficulty and stops dismantling the social fabric.

**We are calling for an urgent change of tack in favour of a social Europe and a new model of economic governance: European governance which is fair and based on solidarity, and ensures some genuine economic recovery policies.**

It is not social spending that has caused the crisis. On the contrary, the social 'shock absorbers' have helped to resolve it. The cause of the crisis is the deregulation of the financial sector and speculation.

### **We reject:**

- » Austerity governance which results in cuts to wages and social protection,
- » Insecurity and unemployment, particularly among young people,
- » Deregulation of labour standards and social regression,
- » The interference in national collective bargaining,
- » Rising social and wage inequalities.

**Governing Europe means strengthening - not attacking - its social model.**

### **We are asking for:**

- » Access to stable, quality jobs, with priority being given to youth employment,
- » Respect for the autonomy of the social partners in collective bargaining and pay negotiations,
- » Protection and increase of workers' purchasing power,
- » A guarantee of decent pay,
- » Strong social protection, the only guarantee of social cohesion and solidarity,
- » Quality social services available to all,
- » A guarantee of better pensions.

**Governing Europe means taking action for real sustainable growth.**

### **We are asking for:**

- » The introduction of a tax on financial transactions to ensure a public investment policy,
- » The issuing of Eurobonds to clamp down on speculation, pool the risk and finance a European recovery plan,
- » The development of sustainable and dynamic industrial policies based on low-carbon policies,
- » Public spending in favour of sustainable investments,
- » Greater fiscal coordination with a minimum rate of taxation for businesses.



**Take part in the euro-demonstration  
organised by the  
EUROPEAN TRADE UNION CONFEDERATION**

**IN LUXEMBOURG CITY ON 21 JUNE 2011 AT 15.00**



[www.etuc.org](http://www.etuc.org)

# **NO TO AUSTERITY**

**FOR A SOCIAL EUROPE,  
FOR FAIR PAY, INVESTMENTS AND JOBS**



**EURO-MANIFESTATION**

**LUXEMBOURG - 21/06/2011**



European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC)