



EFFAT

EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE AND TOURISM TRADE UNIONS

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EFFAT for a New Social Deal Fight the crisis-put people first

EFFAT has no understanding that the employers in many countries try to abuse the current economic situation to undermine the achievements of the European social model and to enforce a deterioration of conditions for the employees in collective bargaining.

The distribution of profits and dividends continues as if there was no crisis. The entire burden of the crisis should be passed on to workers, but wage dumping cannot be the answer to the crisis.

No, the economy in every country now needs nothing more urgent than

- fair wage and salary increases
- stabilisation of the purchasing power

Committed employees have generated the profits with the companies in recent years - not the management. Therefore, they deserve fair wage and salary increases.

Zero wage rounds or wage freezes will not save jobs, but slow down the economy. If the purchasing power continues to decline, a further downward economic spiral is to be expected, threatening the whole economy.

Sustainable wage increases strengthen the purchasing power, which is necessary right now to boost the economy.

This is what employees throughout Europe need. This is what the European trade unions fight for on the major demonstrations of the European action day on 14, 15 and 16 May 2009 in Madrid, Brussels, Berlin and Prague.

The self-service mentality in the boardrooms must end. Europe needs higher wages and pensions, strong welfare states and more purchasing power through higher benefits. And Europe needs strong trade unions across borders, and a strong European Parliament, which together with us creates a Europe of workers and citizens.