

EPSU EWC coordinators network meeting

- Recent ETUC activities
- EWCs
 - Democracy at Work
 - Company law package

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Campaign More Democracy at Work

- ▶ 10 years Barroso total standstill - exception: partial revision of EWC Directive
- ▶ 10 demands for revision - but neither in European Pillar of Social Rights nor Commission response
- ▶ Assessment of EWCs in 2018 - no political conclusions
- ▶ No assessment of the Quality Framework for Restructuring - due in 2016
- ▶ **In view of European Elections im May 2019**
- ▶ ETUC campaign for more democracy at work

Objective of campaign

- ▶ Awareness raising amongst MEPs and newly incoming candidates for the EP
- ▶ Better understanding of our demands amongst new Commission (hearings)
- ▶ Progress towards EWC revision
- ▶ Progress towards EU framework for information, consultation and board-level representation rights including ,escalator‘

Annual EWC Conference

“European Works Councils - a Pillar for More Democracy at Work”

10-11 October 2018

PROGRAMME

Wednesday 10 October 2018

13:00	Registration of participants
13:30	Welcome address by the Chair of the conference: the ETUC campaign for “more democracy at work” <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Peter Scherrer, Deputy General Secretary ETUC
13:45	Keynote speech on more democracy at work <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stefan Olsson, Director DG EMPL
14:15	Discussion and questions from the floor - followed by handover of signatures from the European Appeal for more democracy at work
14:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Workers’ voice in corporate governance: impacts on more democracy at work. Chair: Henning vom Stein, Hans-Böckler Foundation• Aline Conchon, industriAll Europe• Herman Soggeberg, EWC Unilever• Norbert Kluge, Hans-Böckler Foundation of DGB

Wednesday 10 October 2018 afternoon

15:45	Bus to European Parliament
16:30	Rally for Democracy at Work
-	• handover of signatures from the European Appeal for more democracy at work: rally to the European Parliament, Esplanade - meeting MEPs from different political groups
17:30	
17:15-17:30	• small delegation meeting with President of the EP t.b.c.

- For the participants of the EWC conference, ETUC will organise a **bus transfer at 03:45 pm (sharp) from the ITUH building towards the Esplanade of the EP. Please come only with small luggage as the busses are not allowed to wait in front of the EP. Don't forget that Brussels weather is unsteady and foresee an umbrella. We are looking for volunteers to hold the banners and distribute a flyer we draft for the rally. At the registration table of the EWC conference you will find a map to find your way from the EP after the event.**
- The ETUC has invited MEPs to join and some MEPs have already confirmed.
- ETUC has also sent a letter to the President of the EP, Mr. Tajani requesting a meeting with a small TU delegation to voice and explain the concerns on the company law package as laid down in [a recent ETUC resolution](#).

09:00	<p>EWC experience - in view of digitalisation challenges [panel] Moderator: Wolfgang Kowalsky, ETUC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Robert Textoris, EWC Engie, France• Sabine Kuhlmann, EWC Oerlikon, Germany• Daniel Folgado Risueno, EWC Axa insurance, Spain• Daniel Valtakari EWC coordinator for Nokia, Ideal Standard, Perkin Elmer• Gabriele Guglielmi, CGIL FILCAMS International policies coordinator
10:30	Coffee break
11:00	<p>Brexit and EWCs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gerry McCormack, Deputy General Secretary, SIPTU (Ireland)• Stephen Schindler, EFBWW• Barry Firth, EWC Coca Cola UK• Janet Williamson, TUC (UK)
11:45	<p>Towards the European elections: ETUC priorities for the new European Commission and Parliament 2019-24 Luca Visentini, General Secretary ETUC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Questions & answers
12:45	<p>Concluding remarks Peter Scherrer, Deputy General Secretary ETUC</p>
13:00	Buffet lunch

Company Law Package

- ▶ Polbud referred to legal vacuum and broadened it
- ▶ Company law instruments:
- ▶ At European level: CBM Directive
- ▶ however conversions, transfer of seat, divisions are **not allowed** in majority of Member States
- ▶ Workers' rights:
- ▶ At European level: General framework for information and consultation + EWC Directive - but not applicable to conversions, mergers, divisions
- ▶ In 18 Member States: board-level representation rights
- ▶ Solution: Double track approach

ETUC key demands

- ▶ Risks:
- ▶ explosion of letterbox companies and fraud
- ▶ diminished tax income for Member States
- ▶ diminished contributions for social security
- ▶ circumvention of workers' rights
- ▶ Major shortcomings to be fixed:
- ▶ Real seat needs to be applied plus substantive criteria
- ▶ Add transnational information, consultation and board-level representation rights - **escalator** for board-level representation (depending on number of employees)
- ▶ Both proposals need to be kept bundled

Invitation to a lunch-debate on the Company Law Package on 17 October 2018, 13h00 - 14h30 European Parliament, Room JAN 4Q2

We have the pleasure to announce that **Evelyn Regner** (Member of European Parliament and Rapporteur on cross-border conversion, mergers and divisions), **Peter Scherrer** (ETUC Deputy-General Secretary), **Michael Vassiliadis** (President of industriAll Europe) and **Beppo Muchitsch** (President of the Austrian Construction and Wood Workers Union and Member of the Austrian Parliament) will give an input to start the debate.

We invite you to join us and looking forward seeing you for this important debate, which will held in English and German with simultaneous translation. A sandwich lunch will be provided.

If you like to attend, please register until 12th October 2018 via events@dgb-europa.eu.

Thanks a lot for your
attention!

More information:

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