

UNIMED 2011

5th CONFERENCE OF THE FINANCIAL SECTOR UNIONS FROM SOUTH & SOUTHEASTERN EUROPE

Thessaloniki, Greece, 24 & 25 February 2011

A year later, the positions of the 4th Conference remain still valid, confirming the impact of policies implemented by all governments in the EU countries, affecting significantly workers and pensioners throughout Europe.

The danger of a new attack on the income and the labour and social security rights of all employees throughout Europe is now visible, if the Merkel – Sarkozy position prevails concerning the **competitiveness pact** which they want to impose to the weaker economies in southern countries and to extend it to all the people in the European Union.

These policies do not address the problem of the current crisis, they are contributing to the global speculative attacks against the euro, allowing the financial -and not only- capital to continue its irresponsible behavior and lead the workers and people of Europe to a deadlock.

The 5th UNIMED Conference **DECLARES** its opposition to the content of the competitiveness pact which increases the retirement age, reduces the income of workers, who are now reaching poverty levels, but mainly cancels free collective bargaining and collective agreements in a violent, undemocratic and unconstitutional way.

The road on which Europe is being led today **IS NOT A ONEWAY**.

On the contrary, the **WAY OUT** of the current economic crisis may come from policies for development and growth, supervision and monitoring of the financial institutions and changes in their operating model, oriented towards new business ethics and social conscience. Decent work in the sector and respect for workers - social security and labor rights, strengthening and empowerment of collective bargaining and safeguarding of the European Social Dialogue is a fundamental pillar in modern democracies, and consist **the other way out** for workers of Europe.

The claim for the other road requires planned and coordinated intervention of the bodies of UNI-Europa Finance and its affiliated unions at the level of EU institutions, but also at national level in each Member - State.

The financial and economic crisis has shown that we need to increase cooperation among unions, within UNI-Europa and UNI Global Union together with the entire trade union movement. We must closer integrate our activities for our common aims without impinging on each part's specific responsibilities and interests.

The 5th UNIMED Conference **COMMITTS** to coordinate its forces by joint actions aiming to:

Defend and maintain Collective Bargaining and Collective Agreements.
Reject anti-labor projects targeted directly on the income of workers.
Prevent the deterioration of pension rights, the reduction of pensions and the inhuman increase of working years.

SUPPORT UNI's Breaking Through strategy, in particular with a view to develop and organising and campaigning focus to strengthen the impact of coordinated action at European and international level.

CONTRIBUTE to UNI Finance's campaign on responsible sales of financial products, in particular working towards companies' signing a charter on responsible selling and pursue the theme in the next collective bargaining round in our countries.

SERVE with consistency the **DUTY** for unity - solidarity and militancy of all unions in the sector in order to build through collective effort a **wall of resistance** against the powerful interests which continue to speculate to the detriment of European workers and pensioners.

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COMFIA_CCOO-SPAIN
FES-UGT-SPAIN
SBSI-PORTUGAL
DIRCREDITO-ITALY
FNA-ITALY
FABI-ITALY
FALCRI-ITALY

UILCA-ITALY
FISAC/CGIL-ITALY
SNFIA-ITALY
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