

**ETUC Seminar\***  
**Out of the shadow: organising domestic workers**  
*towards a protective regulatory framework for domestic work*

**14-15 April 2005, Brussels**

**Venue: International Trade Union House**  
**5 Bld du Roi Albert II, Auditorium (first floor)**

**\* with the cooperation of IRENE and PICUM**

**Programme**

**Thursday 14 April**

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*First part of the day:            Raising and exchanging knowledge and awareness*

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9.00 – 9.15	Registration and coffee
9.15 – 9.30	Welcome and practical announcements by Catelene Passchier, Confederal Secretary ETUC, Anneke van Luijken, IRENE and Serge Ducrocq, PICUM
9.30 – 9.40	Opening statement by John Monks, General Secretary ETUC
9.40 – 10.00	Facts and figures, presentation of research about domestic work in the EU, Robert Anderson, Dublin Foundation
10.00 – 10.20	Domestic work and gender, Anne Dussuet, researcher University of Nantes, France
10.20 – 10.40	Domestic work and (irregular) migration, Bridget Anderson, of COMPAS (Centre on Migration, Policy and Society), UK
10.40 – 11.00	Questions from the floor
11.00 – 11.30	Coffee break
11.30 – 12.00	Inge Ghijs, journalist of Belgian newspaper the Standaard, presents her book on 'Life in the shadow': stories about domestic slavery in Belgium
12.00 – 12.30	Members from Samahan, the Association of Filipino Migrant workers in Belgium, will speak about their experiences as domestic workers in Belgium
12.30 – 14.00	Lunch break

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*Second part of the day: How are trade unions and/or NGO's dealing with domestic workers, exchange of good practice examples and other relevant experiences*

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- 14.00 – 15.30 Case studies on domestic work, cooperation between trade unions and local authorities, and innovative ways of organising household services
- Spain, presented by Fernando de Leon Columbo, Municipality of Vilafranca de Penedès
  - Italy, presented by Carolina Cardenas, CGIL
  - Belgium, presented by Bart Vannetelbosch, ACV/CSC
  - France, presented by Valter Surian, CFDT-Services
- Questions from the floor
- 15.30 – 15.45 Teabreak
- 15.45 – 16.45 Migrant domestic workers and trade union action,
- the case of Geneva, Switzerland, presented by Ismael Türken
  - Ireland, presented by Esther Lynch, ICTU
  - UK, presented by Diana Holland, TUC – T&G
- Questions from the floor
- 16.45 – 17.45 Round table, with participation from the floor, with all presenters of case studies, to discuss:
- How can trade unions be interested in taking up the interests of domestic workers
  - How can domestic workers be interested in trade union affiliation
  - How, and in what form, to offer irregular migrant domestic workers protection
  - What changes are necessary, with regard to trade union organisation, strategy and policy
  - How can trade unions benefit from alliances with social NGO's
- 17.45 – 18.00 Closure of first day, practical announcements, etc.
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- 19.00 meeting point lobby Hotel les Colonies
- 19.30 Joint dinner at restaurant Falstaff  
Rue Henri Maus 19, B-1000 Brussels  
(near the Bourse)

## **Friday 15 April**

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*First part of the day:                      Towards a protective regulatory framework for domestic workers*

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9.00 – 9.10	Welcome and practical announcements
9.10 – 9.30	Towards a regulatory framework for domestic work: Which international labour standards are already in place that could be used. Which additional regulatory measures are necessary. Presentation by Gloria Moreno Fontes, ILO
9.30 – 9.50	"Transforming undeclared work into regular employment: an EU perspective", presentation by Finn Ola Jølstad, European Commission, DG Employment, Social Affairs & Equal Opportunities
9.50 – 10.00	Questions from the floor
10.00 – 10.20	Outcomes of ETUC questionnaire, and short overview of the European legal framework (EU and Council of Europe) by Wiebke Düvel of the European Trade Union Institute (ETUI-REHS)
10.20 – 10.45	Coffee break
10.45 – 11.45	Towards a regulatory framework for domestic workers: innovative ways of collective bargaining and organizing household services  ➤ France, presentation by Jean Olivier, CGT ➤ Italy, presentation by Ramona Campari, CGIL-Filcams ➤ Germany, presentation by Birgit Pitsch, NGG-DGB ➤ Denmark, presentation by Kirsten Moller, 3F-DK
11.45 – 12.30	Round table, with participation from the floor, with all presenters of case studies.
12.30 – 14.00	Lunch

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*Second part of the day:                      Follow up and future action and activity*

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14.00 – 15.30	Discussion in 3 working groups (an English speaking group, a French speaking group, and a mixed-language group) about draft recommendations to the ETUC and its affiliates about future actions and activities.
15.30 – 16.00	Presentation of outcomes working groups in plenary, and adoption of recommendations.
16.00 – 16.15	Concluding remarks and closure of conference