

14 MARCH 2013 - BRUSSELS

EUROPEAN TRADE UNION RALLY - #140313Youth



**TOGETHER FOR
A BETTER FUTURE:
NO TO AUSTERITY!
YES TO JOBS FOR
YOUNG PEOPLE!**



CONFEDERATION
**SYNDICAT
EUROPÉEN
TRADE UNION**

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Austerity is not working. It is driving the economy into recession and forcing the most vulnerable citizens into poverty. The European Trade Union is no longer the only one saying so. Only a change of economic and political governance can improve employment and growth. The European Union needs some bold policies backed up by a budget in favour of recovery, investments and the creation of sustainable jobs.

We need an urgent change of direction. The European Union needs to have a strong social dimension. That is why the European Trade Union Confederation is organising a European trade union action on 13 and 14 March 2013 ahead of the European Summit scheduled for 14 and 15 March. The priority of these days of action will be to focus on young people who are paying the heavy price for the crisis and austerity.

Europe's young people are more exposed to unemployment than other age groups.

In December 2012, 5.702 million young people under the age of 25 were out of work in the European Union. When they are in work, young people often have 'atypical contracts'. These are usually insecure, low-paid, and offer little or no access to training. They encounter difficulties in accessing housing and low levels of social protection.

We need investment in youth to give them training and access to quality jobs.

INVESTING IN YOUNG PEOPLE TO ENSURE THEIR FUTURE

The European Trade Union Confederation is sounding the alarm: we need to make every effort to reduce unemployment and insecurity for our young people.

Doing nothing costs even more than acting in favour of training and employment.

Young people need guarantees to give them a future.

There needs to be a focus on the quality of jobs, for the sake of solidarity between the generations.

The social partners have a role to play in this process.

ALTERNATIVES DO EXIST: GUARANTEEING LASTING INTEGRATION IN THE LABOUR MARKET

Promoting access to quality training

- Setting up measures to prevent young people falling through the net at school;
- Obliging governments to guarantee access to quality training open to all;
- Improving guidance for young people to enable them to choose the career that suits them;
- Ensuring a quality framework for internships and learning in Europe.

Quickly guaranteeing a quality job

- Guaranteeing the creation of quality jobs for young people;
- Setting up a European youth guarantee by ensuring that every young person is offered training or a job within four months;
- Ensuring that these initiatives are funded via the European Social Fund without cofinancing being demanded for countries in difficulties.