



**INTERVENTION OF UGT-P GENERAL SECRETARY
TRIPARTITE SOCIAL SUMMIT
14 October 2020**

*Dear Members of European Institutions and Governments
Dear Social Partners*

On behalf of UGT - general workers union of Portugal, please accept my best warmly welcome to this Tripartite Social Summit.

In a so severe moment of our lives, with the crisis of pandemia that affects, at different levels, the several states of European Union and the world, it's time to remember the challenges we are facing together.

That's why my first topic is the need of a common answer to the crisis, with the implementation, as soon as possible, of the recovery plan, for which has been very relevant the intervention of the German presidency of the Union and the President of the European Commission. We know that companies and workers must be supported and defended. But defending economy demands an urgent SOCIAL PLAN. We have to protect employment and avoid a social crisis like that one we suffered, particularly in my country, during the sad years of the troika and terrible austerity measures and wages cuts.

The second topic is the intervention and participation of social partners, before any measures taken by European Union, in order to promote the social dialogue and a strong participation of organized civil society.

Third topic is the need to decide and implement, in every state of the Union a minimum wage, respecting the national traditions, but we see this item as a fight against poverty and inequalities in the labour market, and we follow ETUC decisions on this matter.

*Finally, we need a compromise of the European Union, and in a particular way, from the next portuguese presidency, about the implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights, defending collective bargaining, conciliation between family and work, decent work and social inclusion, where none stays behind.
We need a better and fair Europe.*

Thank you very much.

*Carlos Silva
UGT PORTUGAL
General Secretary*