

**EUROPEAN  
ELECTIONS**

06.- 09.  
JUNE

**VOTE FOR CHANGE**

**ETUC Youth  
Demands  
for European  
Elections**

**VOTE!**

CONFEDERATION  
**SYNDICAT  
EUROPÉEN  
TRADE UNION** 

1.

# Quality Jobs

The current labor shortage can be only addressed by better and quality jobs for young people. The correlation between poor working conditions (pay, stability, health & safety and work-life balance) and the lack of workers in certain sectors and certain areas of Europe is self-explanatory.

We must debunk the narrative about young people's passion for job-hopping. The opposite is true: Young workers value stability and do not deserve to be victims of the continuous liberalization of the labor market that continues

to bring new forms of precarious work and new business models that are based on violation of workers' rights.

To this end, young people must be educated through the public system about their workers' rights as well as the social security system and safety they are entitled to in their country if they decide to go work abroad.

ETUC YOUTH DEMAND

**Strong active labor market policies with a focus on young workers and quality jobs.  
Increase in wages and strong European action against precarious forms of work.**



# 2.

## ***TAX THE RICH AND STOP AUSTERITY***

We see public services like healthcare, schools and public transport crumbling in front of our eyes. We have to urgently stop the trend of privatization of those services and inject money into staff and infrastructure.

Quality social services and just transition are not for free and we need to keep investing although the return on investment is not always coming back only in numbers. It is our society and planet that we fight for.

The ongoing wars result in unacceptable human suffering and the loss of human lives. Here in the EU, neo-liberalism and corporate greed transformed them in the cost of living crisis, loss of jobs, housing and the ability of many to pay for heating and warm meals. For banks and multinationals, however, the profits were never bigger.

***We ask to stop this nonsense and bring money and investments where they are needed by the majority of the population.***

ETUC YOUTH DEMAND

***Stop the austerity,  
implement the windfall tax and  
increase taxes on higher income and  
financial transactions to redistribute  
wealth and to finance public  
services and just transition.***



# 3.

## **BAN UNPAID TRAINEESHIPS!**

### ***Stop the exploitation of young people.***

Unpaid internships are a discriminatory practice that only a few can afford and undertake in the framework of an unfamous race to the bottom. For a long time trainees have been used as cheap and unpaid labour, replacing entry-level jobs and instead of a healthy start to their career, they enter the spiral of precariousness.

In the ongoing shortage of skills there is no excuse to pay qualified young professionals less with the empty excuse that they lack working experience. If the employer hires a trainee they need to be ready to assign a mentor and set the learning objectives of the traineeship, register their contract, pay social security contributions and pay an adequate salary.

***Adopt a Directive on Quality  
traineeships that will ban unpaid  
traineeships and set the level  
playing field for trainees across  
sectors and EU.***

**ETUC YOUTH DEMAND**



# 4.

## **Guarantee affordable housing.**

A stable housing situation is crucial for a decent life and is often a precondition for successful take-up of employment opportunities.

However, access to affordable housing is often denied to young people who are being priced out of the city housing market and are increasingly distanced from home ownership.

***We have to establish a clear priority:  
public housing and stability before short-term tourist housing must be  
the guiding principle of all national and local governments.***

**Invest  
in public housing  
and regulation of the rental  
market by limiting the maximum rental price  
and encouraging housing as good for use, not  
as an investment/speculation.**

ETUC YOUTH DEMAND



# 5.

## *CLIMATE JUSTICE AND JUST TRANSITION NOW!*

Failure to mitigate climate change and failure to address climate change adaptation credibly are not only two severe risks but also concerns of our generation. We see natural disasters, extreme weather events, biodiversity loss ecosystem collapse being dealt with in a reactionary manner instead of introducing bold measures to prevent them.

Expected involuntary migration due to weather conditions seems like a nightmare in the situation when Europe is shamefully not able to find a consensus on how to welcome and integrate migrants and refugees escaping terror and war.

***The true price and impact on the next generation must be visibly considered.***

**Stop subsidies for fossil fuels and invest in renewable energy and vocational training to make a social and ecological transformation of the economy possible. Green quality jobs must be at the heart of just transition.**

**ETUC YOUTH DEMAND**



6.

# **FIGHT THE FAR RIGHT**

Although fascism is fundamentally opposing the working-class movement, the lack of solutions to current social and economic problems from the mainstream political parties makes it look appealing to voters. As young workers we are committed to fighting it.

As young workers, we must ensure that relevant strategies are in place in policymaking and at the workplace. Anti-democratic forces and their agenda to promote conflict and austerity policies while undermining respect for human rights and democracy must not be given more space at the EU level. For the past 5 years, our policy watch demonstrated that the far-right parties are, despite their rhetoric, an enemy of workers, serving the interest of big business.

***Progressive forces must unite in denouncing their techniques and promoting values of social Europe instead.***

**Fight disinformation and populism.  
Implementation of the Cordon Sanitaire  
(agreement on non-cooperation) with  
far-right and antidemocratic candidates  
and political groups.**

ETUC YOUTH DEMAND

