



The economic situation in Europe is deteriorating :

The full employment target adopted by the European Union risks slipping further away as one company after another is restructured or shut down.

However, a united Europe has the potential to prevent this deterioration - but it must summon the political will and means to do so. The euro itself must be placed at the service of growth and full employment.

The ETUC is the voice of 60 million

world:

The European trade union movement is mobilising before the European Council in Laeken, so that the EU:

- constitutes, as a counterbalance to the Central Bank, a true " economic government " capable of coordinating the economic and budgetary policies of the Member States
- ends the spiral of tax competition between Member States by introducing a minimum rate for companies and for capital revenues
- allocates the necessary means to support the creation of more and better jobs.
 We also want a Europe capable of

organised workers in Europe

We also need more Europe to safeguard and develop our social model :

That is all the more necessary now that Europe is being enlarged to include new countries. Enlargement must mean much more than just a larger single market.

We are mobilising in Laeken for a social Europe willing to demonstrate its solidarity by:

- guaranteeing quality public services
- safeguarding social security systems
- extending employee rights in undertakings
- promoting equal treatment between men and women, starting with equal pay
- improving safety and health conditions at the workplace
- combating poverty, exclusion and discrimination in all forms

We are demonstrating in Laeken:

- so that the European Council adopts an agenda of reforms designed to bring greater
 effectiveness and democracy to its institutions and decision-making. This requires
 introducing as a general rule qualified majority for decisions concerning employment and
 social, fiscal and environment policy; increasing the legislative powers of the European
 Parliament; recognising the need to enable trade unions and others to play a more active
 role.
- for the construction of a democratic Europe of the citizens. The Charter must be integrated into the future constitution of the European Union so that its legal value is recognised, with its provisions on social and trade union rights having been strengthened.

With its social model, the Union can and must contribute to mastering today's unbridled globalisation, thus paving the way for a future based on the true development of peoples, on social justice and on the respect of human rights.

assuming its responsibilities in the

In order to rise to these challenges, we need a Europe that is both independent and strong.

We are looking to the Laeken Summit for more Europe :

- for full employment, with quality jobs
- for a society which demonstrates solidarity, without discrimination or exclusion
- of to curb globalisation, and to promote development, social justice and peace.



Europe - that's us!

