The recent financial and economic crisis has intensified the debate on how our companies should be governed. Dissatisfaction is growing with the ‘shareholder value’ model of the firm, which claims that the stock market is the best yardstick for company value and which has dominated reform of company law for the past two decades. This conference will focus on the need for change in Europe’s corporate governance system and a reorientation of our companies away from short-term shareholder value to long-term sustainability. Keynote speakers will discuss current challenges and policy alternatives in corporate governance in Europe. Panel sessions will debate new ideas and alternatives presented in the book *The Sustainable Company*, which was written by members of GOODCORP, a network of researchers and trade unionists concerned with corporate governance issues.

**Agenda**

9.00 – 9.30 Registration and coffee

9.30 – 9.35 **Opening and Welcome**
Philippe Pochet, General Director, ETUI

9.35 – 10.00 **Why workers need a new system of corporate governance**
Bernadette Ségol, General Secretary, ETUC

10.00 – 10.30 **What is the Sustainable Company?**
Sigurt Vitols, ETUI
Norbert Kluge, European Works Council Coordinator, ThyssenKrupp

10.30 – 11.00 Coffee break

11.00 – 12.30 **Moderator: Norbert Kluge, ThyssenKrupp**
**How can worker influence improve the sustainability of companies?**
Aline Conchon, ETUI
Jan Cremers, Amsterdam Institute of Advanced Labour Studies
Ulrich Mückenberger, Bremen University
Andrew Pendleton, York University

12.30 – 14.00 Lunch
14.00 – 15.15  Moderator: Ieke van den Burg, Stichting à Propos

**What framework conditions are needed to support sustainable companies?**

Andreas Botsch, ETUI
Gregory Jackson, Freie Universität Berlin
Andrew Watt, ETUI

15.15 – 15.45  Coffee break

15.45 – 17.00  Moderator: Maria Jepsen, Research Director, ETUI

**Roundtable discussion: How can we improve European corporate governance in the interests of stakeholders and society?**

Eric Ducoulombier, Internal Market and Services DG, European Commission
Claudia Menne, Confederal Secretary, ETUC
Janet Williamson, Senior Policy Officer, TUC
Evelyn Regner, MEP, European Parliament

17.00  End of conference

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