Diverging Europe: same diagnosis, different remedies?
Joint conference of the European Trade Union Institute and DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, European Commission

Brussels, 23 April 2013, 14h00-17h30
Hotel Crowne Plaza - Le Palace (Rue Gineste 3, 1210 BXL), Room Vision (8th floor)

Both the EU Commission’s recent report on Employment and Social Developments in Europe and the ETUC/ETUI upcoming Benchmarking Europe 2013 recognise growing divergence and polarization in the areas of social protection, employment, poverty, wages and social exclusion. But is the analysis of the roots of this social crisis the same and how do the proposed solutions differ?

The authors of the two publications will present their analysis at this event organized jointly by the ETUI and DG Employment.

Draft Programme

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14.00-14.15

Opening remarks

Philippe Pochet, General Director ETUI
Laurence Weerts, Cabinet Commissioner Andor, Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion

14.15-15.45

Session 1: Employment and social trends: polarisation and divergence

Chair: Philippe Pochet, General Director ETUI
Presentation by Robert Strauss, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, European Commission
Presentation by Maria Jepsen, Director of the ETUI Research department and Margherita Bussi, ETUI researcher
Comments by Józef Niemiec, Deputy General Secretary ETUC and Alfonso Arpaia, DG Economic and Financial Affairs, European Commission

15.45-16.00 Coffee break

16.00-17.30

Session 2: Wage development in crisis

Chair: Georg Fischer, Director for ‘Analysis, Evaluation, External Relations’, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, European Commission
Presentation by Torsten Müller and Magdalena Bernaciak, ETUI researchers
Presentation by Eric Meyermans, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, European Commission
Comments by Rafael Lamas, Head – International and European Relations department, FGTB and Nils Trampe, Confederation of Danish Employers DA, BusinessEurope

FR/EN interpretation will be available.

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