



**european  
community**

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**TRADE UNION  
NEWS**

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## I. THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

### THE SOCIAL SITUATION IN THE COMMUNITY IN 1967

The Commission of the European Communities has recently published a "Report on the Development of the Social Situation in the Community in 1967" which is annexed to the "First General Report on Activities of the Communities".

On 13 March Professor Levi Sandri, Vice-President of the Commission, presented this report to the European Parliament in Strasbourg.

Below we reproduce a summary of Professor Levi Sandri's speech and a summary of the report.

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#### Address by Professor Levi Sandri given on 13 March 1968 in Strasbourg

On 13 March Professor Lionello Levi Sandri, a Vice-President of the Commission, presented to the European Parliament the report covering developments in the social situation within the Community during 1967.

Reviewing briefly the work done in the social field in the course of the last ten years, M. Levi Sandri pointed out that the Community institutions had undertaken, sometimes in difficult conditions but with a fair measure of success, the specific tasks laid upon them by the European Treaties. The most positive results had been achieved in those fields where the Treaties had given the executive bodies of the Communities - Councils, Commissions and the High Authority - the powers necessary to attain specific objectives such as the free movement of workers, social security for migrant workers and the European Social Fund required by the Treaty of Paris, or the aid for readaptation and loans for conversion envisaged in the Coal and Steel Community's Treaty of Paris. It could also be said that in the individual countries the social results of the progressive achievement of European integration have on the whole been decidedly positive. During the years under review there had been an increase in numbers employed and a great decrease in

unemployment, at any rate until the appreciable business slump which had recently affected the position but was now being overcome. Wages in the Common Market countries had undergone a sharper overall increase than in most other large industrial countries, and the differences of level between individual countries had narrowed considerably. There had also been an appreciable reduction in the length of the working week and notable progress in the field of social security as a result of the gradual extension of social security benefits to further categories of beneficiaries and of the higher degree of protection.

After analysing the way the very concepts of social law and social policy had evolved, M. Levi Sandri explained the main priorities that the Commission had in mind for its future work in this field.

The Commission's first aim would be to treat social problems as an integral part of the common and other policies. There were prospects for development particularly in those sectors where the Commission intended to tackle fresh tasks: in industrial policy, energy policy, regional policy and policy on scientific research. Social policy should help provide an answer to one of the major problems which could confront the Member States and the Commission in the coming years, namely that of structural change. The second programme of medium-term economic policy that the Commission would be submitting shortly to the Council would be based mainly on this structural aspect, and it was from this same angle that the common agricultural policy, too, would be breaking new ground. The same went for industrial policy, where stress would be laid on the structural adaptation of enterprises and the general policy on structure. "Change" would also be a key word in connection with the economic and social aspects of regional policy, energy policy and policy on scientific and technical research.

The second priority at Community level would be to find solutions to employment problems, so that the worker, far from becoming a victim of social change, should gain from it. With this aim in view the Commission would review and expand the proposals already put forward for a complete overhaul of the European Social Fund in the light of the possibilities offered by Article 126 of the Treaty of Rome. The reformed Fund would have to take its place in an overall policy on employment and vocational training.

The same concepts had guided the Commission in the choice of priorities for its work on labour relations. Both managements and workers had a decisive role to play in the search for more efficacious

solutions to the problems raised by structural change. In all Community countries there was a very distinct trend towards greater collaboration between the employers' associations and the trade unions, and between them and the public authorities. The Commission had always been convinced of the fundamental character of such collaboration, which would make it possible to arrive at a common determination to achieve greater social justice through the control of balanced economic expansion. The Commission would therefore continue to attach the greatest importance to the thorough examination, by both sides of industry, of its guidelines on social policy, not only in the institutions that had been officially established at Community level, but also in bi- or tri-partite working parties set up to tackle specific problems.

The fourth and last sphere to which the Commission proposed to give priority covered the complex of conditions of living. Here particular attention should be paid to social security. The various Governments were confronted with a major problem, that of the heavy increase in expenditure. Difficult choices had to be made and it was possible that in certain situations the authorities would have, for financial reasons, to resort to restrictive measures. Covering deficits in the short or medium term involved possible lines of action: an increase in receipts, a decrease in expenditure, and participation by the State, which in the final analysis raised the question of who would bear, and in what proportions, the weight of the restrictive measures deemed inevitable. This meant that such measures were conceivable only in the framework of an overall programme where all requirements were fairly balanced and all legitimate interests safeguarded.

M. Levi Sandri went on to refer to other work being done by the Commission. Freedom of movement for workers, for example, must be complete by 1 July of this year and the co-ordination of social security arrangements for migrant workers must be improved and simplified. At the same time the work being done on industrial health and safety would be intensified and widened.

#### Summary of the Report on the Development of the Social Situation in the Community in 1967

##### Economic development

In 1967 the Community's economic expansion slowed down fairly appreciably - mainly during the first six months; a gradual recovery

took place during the second half of the year. While the trend of external demand from 1966 to 1967 remained relatively dynamic, the expansion of internal demand slowed down appreciably. This was particularly the case with gross fixed capital formation, which in 1967 was only about 1% by value more than in the previous year.

The increase in total consumer spending in the Community was less sharp than in 1966, although the rate of increase of public current expenditure on goods and services was clearly maintained. The falling-off in the growth of public current expenditure on goods and services in Germany and the BLEU was virtually offset by a certain acceleration in the other member countries.

As regards private consumer spending, the annual growth rate came down from 7.8% in 1966 to approximately 5.5% in 1967. However, since the rise in prices was only accentuated slightly in Italy and remained virtually constant in France, while it was much less significant than in 1966 in the other Community countries, the falling-off in private consumer spending is less pronounced if considered in terms of volume. The rate of expansion by volume of private consumer spending was still approximately 3%, as against 4.3% from 1965 to 1966. If it is estimated that the population of the Community rose by almost 1% from 1966 to 1967, the increase in consumption by volume per head was only about 2%, as against 3.3% from 1965 to 1966. This time, divergences have been particularly pronounced from one country to another; for instance, consumption increased by 5% per head in Italy and hardly at all in Germany - a difference which, if it comes to that, is quite in keeping with the economic trends prevailing in the two countries.

### Employment

The change in economic trends which took place in 1966 in several Community Member States continued to influence the employment situation in 1967; it gave rise to an increase in unemployment accompanied by a decline in demand for manpower.

In the Community as a whole the number of unemployed rose from 1 440 000 in October 1966 to 1 700 000 in October 1967. In Italy the number fell by 110 000 units and in the other countries it rose by 370 000 units. Besides complete unemployment, partial unemployment has

also increased, owing to the reduction in working hours. Admittedly, the economic regression slackened off during 1967, but the rate of unemployment still remains fairly high. In many cases it was difficult for redundant employees, and in particular older workers, to find other employment elsewhere.

The employment trend is certainly not attributable solely to a change for the worse in the economic situation. Some shutdowns and mergers of firms occurred which constitute a structural phenomenon, linked with increased competition not only between member countries in the Common Market but also with industrialized non-member countries. Other shutdowns and mergers can be accounted for by structural changes in demand (coal-mines) or keener competition on the world market (textiles and shipbuilding). However, the economic factors have further aggravated the structural problems.

In all the countries, unemployment generally increased most in areas characterized by weak economic structures or undiversified structures. Moreover, the least skilled workers were the first to be hit by unemployment, and often also the hardest hit. All in all, therefore, considerable divergences have occurred in the nature and geographical location of supply and demand. The Commission considers that specific measures to encourage mobility of workers should be elaborated as much as possible. Special efforts should be made to develop the regions which are at present backward or in process of conversion. However, if regional industrialization is not strongly rooted in a variety of industrial and other establishments, employment in these areas is bound to be uncertain.

The economic trend has had significant effects on use by the Member States of foreign manpower: less than half as many foreign workers entered the Community in 1967 as in 1966. However, in most of the Member States, the number of foreign workers coming in from non-member countries decreased more, in varying degrees, than the number of foreign workers from member countries.

On 30 September 1967, 1 127 200 people were employed in the ECSC industries compared with 1 229 600 a year earlier. The general rundown in manpower has therefore accelerated again over the last twelve months.

The Community's coal-mining manpower fell from 637 400 on 30 September 1966 to 561 500 on 30 September 1967, which represents a reduction of 12% as compared with 9% during the twelve months previous to 30 September 1966.

The drop in manpower accelerated in all the coalfields except the Belgian ones. Compared with the previous year, it was very pronounced in the Ruhr, Limburg in the Netherlands and Nord-Pas-de-Calais.

On 30 September 1967, 542 000 people were employed in the iron and steel industry, compared with 565 000 on 30 September 1966.

Despite a slight recovery in production, the reduction in manpower continued (-23 000 or -4.1%, compared with -22 300 or -4% in the previous year).

Except in Belgium and France, where manpower dropped less than in the previous year, the numbers employed in iron and steel in the various countries dropped more than during the period from September 1965 to September 1966.

#### Labour relations and working conditions

Mention should be made of the agreement concluded in the Netherlands between the government and the Foundation of Labour for the introduction in 1968 of a much greater freedom in connection with wages policy; henceforward, both sides of industry will fix wages and other working conditions without the prior intervention of the public authorities, which will, however, continue to watch the situation in order to prevent excessive salary increases that would be detrimental to the country's general economic position. These recent developments underline the efforts by the government and both sides of industry to align the Netherlands system of wage-fixing with the system operating in all the other countries of the Community. In France, the most important event has been the publication of an order introducing a scheme under which wage-earners will share in the advantages of expansion of enterprises. This is a compulsory scheme, at least for firms employing more than 100 people, requiring the sharing between employees of a certain portion of the profits, but in the form of capital frozen in principle for five years. The objects are to give the workers a direct interest in the growth of their firms, to create a further source of savings, and by so doing to increase firms' investment capacity. In the framework of its social policy, the French Government requested the National Council of French Employers to hold talks at national level with the trade unions in order to examine the current social problems, notably that of employment.

These talks, which took place in October 1967, gave the parties concerned the chance to express their point of view and to put forward specific demands. In this context, the CFDT (French Democratic Federation of Labour) and the FO (Federation of Labour (socialist)) have indicated the particular importance which they attach to the problem of partial unemployment.

It is interesting to note a tendency for both sides of industry to open negotiations for concluding outline agreements at national level. If this tendency were to become accepted practice it would change the nature of labour relations in France, which have been characterized up till now by the signing of collective agreements limited to local level or to a particular branch of industry. In this connection, special mention may be made of the demand of the steelworkers in the French Democratic Federation of Labour for the conclusion of a national agreement for the whole iron and steel industry.

Industrial relations in Germany have been characterized by introduction of the "concerted action" procedure - the regular discussions started by the new government with the trade unions and employers' organizations, and with groups of enterprises, concerning the present main problems of economic and incomes policy. Six talks were held in the course of the year; these resulted in agreement on a series of macroeconomic guide lines, which are intended to provide bases for the autonomous decisions of the parties concerned.

In France and Italy changes have been made to the provisions in force for the protection of **young** workers, bringing them into line with the Commission's recommendation to the Member States of 31 January 1967. Even before this recommendation was adopted, Germany had overhauled its regulations on the protection of young workers in the same spirit. In Luxembourg, a draft law on the subject has been placed before the Council of State.

In Belgium a Royal Decree has been promulgated under the law on special powers concerning female labour; this decree, which covers all aspects of female labour, recognizes in particular the right of women to equal pay, as the Commission has recommended on a number of occasions. The decree also ensures better protection of working mothers by provisions evidently inspired to a great extent by the work done in this field by the Commission in conjunction with the Member States under Article 118 of the Treaty. This work enabled a draft recommendation to the Member States to be prepared, for the gradual harmonization upwards of the rules and arrangements to protect mothers. It should also be noted that a draft law on collective labour agreements was laid before the Belgian Parliament on 23 February 1967. This measure mainly establishes the status of such agreements, thus filling

a gap in labour legislation. The draft law has already been adopted by one of the legislative Chambers.

In conclusion, the trend in industrial relations and working conditions has been marked by continuation of the recession in the coal and iron-mining industries and by measures of rationalization and concentration in the steel industry.

In 1967 both sides of industry have sought to remedy the bad effects of this situation. On the legal plane, too, steps have been taken to alleviate the effects of the necessary dismissal of workers.

In the steel industry, tripartite bodies have been set up for the first time, mainly in Belgium, France and Italy, to examine the economic and social situation. One result of establishing these bodies has been direct consultation of trade unions on the development of the situation.

There has also been or will be a fairly general reduction in working hours and an agreed wage increase for all the ECSC industries.

#### Wages and working hours

In 1967 wage increases slowed down by comparison with the previous year, sometimes quite appreciably, in four countries, namely the three Benelux countries and Germany. In France wages continued to increase at virtually the same rate as in 1966; in Italy, however, they increased more rapidly.

The figures available on the length of the actual working week show that in most countries it has become shorter. In Germany and the Netherlands, for instance, this is very largely attributable to further reductions in working hours arranged through collective agreements, but it is also due to the unfavourable economic situation, especially in Germany, where the reductions in working hours have been considerable. This tendency has not shown itself in Italy, where the working hours have again become normal after the heavy reduction in 1965.

Despite the sometimes appreciable slowing-down in wage increases the cost of living index, in general, increased again fairly considerably. From October 1966 to October 1967 the rise in the cost of living oscillated between 3% and 4% in all the countries except Germany, where it was only slightly over 1%.

Nevertheless, the real annual income of workers seems to have gone up by a            points in most of the member countries, particularly Belgium, France, Italy and the Netherlands.

In most of the ECSC industries there was a slight but definite improvement in real hourly wages. In two industries - German coal-mines and Luxembourg steel - direct hourly wages increased in step with the cost of living, so that the purchasing power of workers in these industries appears to have remained stable.

In the coal-mines, wage increases in 1967 were below the average for previous years, except in Italy, where the wages of the Sulcis workers rose sharply over the last two years as a result of integration of the mining company employing them with ENEL, the public electricity undertaking. This deceleration had already become evident during the previous year in Germany, France and the Netherlands, but it was particularly marked in Germany.

In the iron mines, wages also increased at rates which were less than the averages for the preceding years. This is manifest in all the Community countries, but it does constitute a recovery compared with the previous year, when wages were more severely curbed in Germany, France and Italy.

In the iron and steel industry, direct wage increases were generally higher than in the mines, apart from the Italian coal-mines and the Luxembourg iron mines. In Belgium and the Netherlands, increases were even above the average for the previous years, particularly in the Netherlands, where the increases in the iron and steel industry were the highest since 1953.

#### Vocational training

In order to give an account of the development of vocational training in the EEC countries in 1967, an actual situation must be

described. From this, the tendencies which give direction and meaning to the development can be deduced and analysed, so as to make the present intelligible and to provide guidance for the future.

Such a study of trends is the more necessary today because the object of modern vocational training policies is to introduce the concept of development into training structures, programmes and methods, so that they can be adapted continuously to situations as they arise.

Nowadays, of course, the nature of vocational qualifications is being transformed by the constant changes in the structure of the economy and of employment, and the rapidity of technical progress, combined with the social and cultural requirements of industrial society.

These qualifications are becoming less stable and above all more complex, and it is no longer sufficient to define them simply according to the conditions of the job and the type of operations it requires. Nowadays they need to be permanently adaptable to the technical patterns of work and to be consciously and responsibly involved in the economic and political management of the economy. This means that they can only be built up on a sound general basic training which is at the same time cultural, scientific, technical and civic.

This fundamental requirement - which the governments of the Member States have undertaken to meet by adopting the general principles for the implementation of a common vocational training policy, particularly the second principle - necessitates a radical change in vocational training. The links between vocational training and economic development are emphasized in the first medium-term economic policy programme, notably in its chapter on employment and vocational training policy.

It is not yet possible to predict the time required for this change, which will vary according to the historical, geographical and economic conditions of each country. But the main line which the change is following is clear.

It is an attempt at a synthesis of life and culture at the level of a general development and educational policy by giving a vocational dimension to the whole of education and by creating permanent training conditions.

The road to this goal is still long, but it is indeed the road which the most percipient among those responsible in Europe for vocational training are beginning to tread.

## Social security

In 1967, as in previous years, measures were taken to extend the scope of application of social security, and the level of security improved in many branches of the various schemes. Nevertheless, developments during the year were dominated by the fact that, to a greater or lesser extent, the very structures of the social security schemes were changed, or at least the governments decided or proposed to change them. This was so in France (general reform), in Belgium (wage-earners' pension scheme; scheme for self-employed), and - at the financial level only - in Germany (pension scheme), while in Italy reorganizations are taking place, with varying degrees of rapidity, as the 1966-1970 five-year economic programme is implemented, and in the Netherlands as the law on insurance against incapacity for work is put into effect.

Furthermore, in some countries restrictive measures were adopted because of the financial situation of the social security system.

Concern for the accounting or budgetary angles may account for these decisions, up to a certain point. But, over and above such preoccupations, most of the measures show an obvious desire to assure the future development of schemes likely to be affected by the "spontaneous" growth of expenditure on maintaining the traditional structures. It should also be borne in mind that studies carried out in recent years have left no doubt of the need for adopting measures extending beyond mere day-to-day administration. It will also be observed that the very different means adopted in some countries sometimes help to bring about an alignment of administrative structures at Community level. For instance, when France separates sickness and old-age risks and establishes a system in which the specific nature of the risk entails unified administration, it is following the same line as Italy when that country, approaching the problem from the other direction, decides on the gradual merging of the institutions operating sickness insurance schemes (to prevent what the economic programme calls "pulverization" of expenditure) or Belgium, when it decides on the immediate merging of wage-earners' pension schemes (to overcome certain obstacles resulting from historical peculiarities).

The intentions of the Member State governments regarding the funds to be made available to ensure a lasting equilibrium of social security seem to be closer still. To achieve this objective the governments mean to influence receipts (by increasing contributions and rationalizing organization) or expenditure (by reducing certain benefits), but more usually both at the same time. More usually, too, the idea of an increase in the financial aid from the public authorities has been discarded, except as an exceptional way of safeguarding a temporarily jeopardized situation.

## Industrial safety and health

In the course of 1967, scientific and technological progress, the continuous development of new machinery and working methods, and the risks inherent in them led to further work on legal provisions to ensure industrial safety and health.

Once more, legislation on the technical side of accident prevention was concerned with safety precautions regarding dangerous machines and plant requiring supervision, mainly steam boilers and compressed gas vessels. In addition, more than one Member State has paid particular attention to the elaboration of rules governing dangerous substances and preparations; this trend will be reinforced by the Council directive of 27 June 1967 on the approximation of legislative and administrative provisions relating to the classification, packing and labelling of dangerous substances, and the future directives on dangerous preparations.

It is also interesting to note the inclination - which was repeatedly found and also became evident during the Commission's approximation work - to retain, where practicable, a certain flexibility in the rules for technical safety so as to preserve the possibilities of developing and improving engineering techniques and methods.

As regards health protection against ionizing radiation, the Member States made great progress in 1967 in supplementing or amending according to the Commission's directives the laws, regulations and administrative rules ensuring the observance of basic standards.

In the matter of ambient radioactivity, the radioactive contamination of the air, water and various foodstuffs has been decreasing regularly for the last four years, on a scale comparable with that found in other parts of the world in the same hemisphere.

## Low-cost housing - family matters - social services

In all the Member States housing problems are becoming more complex, mainly as a result of growing populations and urbanization.

Municipal or state housing, a form of assistance by the public authorities to poorer categories of citizens, can no longer be dissociated from the concept of an overall environment policy, introduced gradually into the wider conception of town and country planning.

Economic factors, requirements of social betterment, and communications problems are now closely interdependent and call for fresh conceptions in the matter of environment: new towns, renovation of old towns, rationalized building, etc. According to the assessments available, total housing completed in 1967 was of the same order of magnitude as in 1966. The situation in the Community at the end of 1967 as regards housing construction can be summed up as follows: stagnation in France and Italy, where there are severe shortages; satisfaction of normal requirements in Germany and Luxembourg; the Netherlands catching up well; not enough municipal and state housing in Belgium.

As regards family matters, a number of financial compensation measures were adopted in 1967 but there were no radical reforms. The most noteworthy measures were the extension of family allowances to further categories in Italy and the grant of additional allowances for handicapped children in Belgium and Luxembourg.

At the ninth Conference of Ministers responsible for family matters, held in May 1967 in Geneva, the Ministers of the Community countries, the United Kingdom, Switzerland and Austria examined a report on the development and objectives of legislation on family allowances. The Commission and the Council of Europe were represented at the meeting.

A new interest in family problems at international level was shown by the Ministers concerned with family matters in the Benelux States when they jointly proposed to the Committee of Ministers that a special committee should be set up for social action regarding family matters within Benelux.

Holiday travel for the masses continues to be a topic of the moment. A study of government policy in the six countries prompts the conclusion that all are concerned with the question of staggering holidays and are seeking a solution to this thorny problem.

In the social services, substantial progress has been made in the six countries. This positive trend is marked not so much by new measures as by an intensification of activities and an increased effort

to ascertain the social situation and its problems, thanks mainly to ad hoc surveys and the exploitation of data obtained from complex surveys such as that carried out in Germany.

For the aged, greater endeavours have been made to improve the existing situation in the member countries, for instance by building old people's homes, which has been taking place on a particularly large scale in France and Germany (3 000 beds per year in Bavaria alone).

## IN MEMORIAM

Raymond LATIN died on 21 March 1968 at Herstal Hospital, Herstal, Belgium, aged fifty seven.

A trade union leader in the "Mouvement Syndical Unifié" (MSU) during the 1939-1945 War, R. Latin became General Secretary of the Liège Metal Workers following the liberation.

In 1947 the Metal Workers' Congress elected him General Secretary of the Belgian National Union of Metal Workers, one of the largest unions affiliated to the national centre, FGTB.

In this capacity he represented the metal and engineering workers on a number of bodies: the Central Economic Council ("Conseil central de l'économie"), the National Labour Council ("Conseil national du travail") and in the ECSC he was Vice-President of the Consultative Committee during the period, 1959-1960.

Following the premature death of André Renard, R. Latin returned to Liège, again becoming General Secretary of the Liège Region Metal and Engineering Workers and President of the Federation of Socialist and Trade-Union Friendly Societies of this Province.

## II. THE UNIONS AND EUROPE

### TRADE UNION STRUCTURE AT EUROPEAN LEVEL (I)

ICFTU

(International Confederation of Free Trade Unions)

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EUROPEAN TRADE UNION SECRETARIAT  
(110, rue des Palais, Brussels 3)  
(Tel: 16 81 05)

General Secretary: Th. RASSCHAERT  
Secretaries : C. SAVOINI, A. MISSLIN, W. BRAUN

The following national trade union centres are affiliated to the European Trade Union Secretariat:

D G B	Deutscher Gewerkschaftsbund, German Federal Republic
F G T B	Fédération Générale du Travail de Belgique, Belgium
N V V	Nederlands Verbond van Vakverenigingen, Netherlands
C I S L	Confederazione Italiana Sindacati Lavoratori, Italy
U I L	Unione Italiana del Lavoro, Italy
C G T - Lux.	Confédération Générale du Travail, Luxembourg
C G T - F.O.	Confédération Générale du Travail - Force Ouvrière, France

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At the request of a number of readers, we are giving a brief summary of the organizational structure at European level of the unions affiliated to the ICFTU and IFCTU. The summary does not claim to be exhaustive but should provide a useful reference source for those wishing to know more about the structural organization of the unions at European level.

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President: L. ROSENBERG, President of the DGB (Germany)  
Hans-Böckler Straße 39, 4000 Düsseldorf I,  
Postfach 2601 Tel. 8951

Vice-Presidents: B. STORTI, General Secretary of the CISL/Italy  
Via Po, 21, Rome (Tel. 86 77 41/2-3-4)

L. MAJOR, General Secretary of the FGTB/Belgium  
42, rue Haute, BRUXELLES (Tel. 11 64 61 -  
11 64 66)

Members : A. BERGERON, General Secretary of the CGT-FO/France  
198, avenue du Maine, Paris 14e  
(Tel. Suffren 66 70)

O. BRENNER, President of IG Metall/Germany  
6 Frankfurt/Main, Untermainkai 76  
(Tel. 30 351)

I. VIGLIANESI, General Secretary of the UIL/Italy  
Via Lucullo 6, Rome (Tel. 471 531)

M. HINTERSCHIED, General Secretary of the CGT/Luxembourg  
Case postale 45, Luxemburg-Gare  
(Tel. 212 32)

A. H. KLOOS, President of the NVV/Netherlands  
Plein' 40-45, n. 1 - Postbus 8110 -  
Amsterdam (Tel. 13 46 26)

Ch. VEILLON, National Secretary of the CGT-FO/France  
198, avenue de Maine, Paris 14e  
(Tel. Suffren 66 70)

Representative of the ICFTU European Regional Organization: G. DERMINE

Representative of the Executive Committee of ICFTU Miners and Metal  
Workers Inter-Trade-Union Group of the ECSC: W. Michels, 4 Düsseldorf  
Pionierstraße 12.

## TRADE AND INDUSTRIAL COMMITTEES

"Committee of ITF-ICFTU Transport Workers' Union in the EEC"  
President : P. SEIBERT, 6 Frankfurt/Main, Beethovenstraße 12-16  
Secretary : B. JONCKHEERE, 110, rue des Palais, Brussels 3

"Working Party of the European Agricultural Workers' Union"  
President: H. SCHMALZ, 35 Kassel-Wilhelmshöhe 1, Druseltalstrasse 51  
Secretary: A. LULLING, 110, rue des Palais, Brussels 3

"EEC Co-ordination Committee of the International Federation of  
Chemical and General Workers"

President: K. KUEPPER, 3 Hannover, Königsworther Platz 6  
Secretary: A. KLOSS, 3 Hannover, Königsworther Platz 6

"Joint Committee of Building and Wood Workers in the European  
Communities"

President: E. JANSSENS, 6, rue de Watteau, Brussels 1  
Secretary: W. SCHUETZ, 6 Frankfurt/Main, Beckenheimer Landstraße 73/77

"ICFTU Metal Workers' Committee"

President: M. ZONDERVAN, 6 Andries Bickerweg, The Hague (Netherlands)  
Secretary: G. KOEPKE, 110, rue des Palais, Brussels 3

"Co-ordination Committee for Managerial and Supervisory Staffs and  
White-Collar Workers in the EEC"

President: J. H. TER HORST, Binnenkant 32, Amsterdam  
Secretary: F. HERRMANN, 110, rue des Palais Brussels 3

"Committee for the Food, Tobacco and Catering Industries"

President: B. VAN HATTEM, Plein' 40-45, Postbus 8107, Amsterdam W  
Secretary: B. JONCKHEERE, 110, rue des Palais, Brussels 3

"Textile Unions Co-ordinating Committee"

President: K. BUSCHMANN, 4 Düsseldorf I, Florastraße 7  
Secretary: S. BAECK, 8, rue J. Stevens, Brussels

"PTTI Trade Union Committee for the EEC Countries"

General Secretary: S. NEDZYNSKI, 24, rue du Lombard, Brussels I

ICFTU MINERS' AND METAL WORKERS' INTER-TRADE-UNION

GROUP OF THE ECSC

President: W. MICHELS (Germany) 4 Düsseldorf, Pionierstraße 12  
Members : R. VANDEPERRE (Belgium) (Chairman of the "Steel Committee")  
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EUROPEAN ORGANIZATION OF THE IFCTU

(International Federation of Christian Trade Unions)

PERMANENT SECRETARIAT

(121, rue Joseph II, Brussels 4 (Tel. 13 11 94 / 13 11 96)

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Secretaries : P. VAN BIJSTERVELD

J. POPOVITCH

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The following trade union organizations are affiliated to the IFCTU  
European Organization:

C S C Confédération des Syndicats Chrétiens (Belgium)

C F D T (cftc)Confédération Française Démocratique du Travail (France)

N K V                    Nederlands Katholiek Vakverbond  
(Netherlands)

C N V                    Christelijk Nationaal Vakverbond in Nederland  
(Netherlands)

C G B                    Christlicher Gewerkschaftsbund Deutschlands (German  
Federal Republic)

L C G B                Luxemburger Christlicher Gewerkschaftsbund (Luxembourg)

The IFCTU European Organization also includes certain other European national centres: OEGB (Austria); CNC and SVEA (Switzerland); CMPU (Malta). These organizations are only represented in a consultative capacity when the European Organization is dealing with matters relating to the Europe of the Six.

The "ACLI" (The Italian Christian Workers' Associations) are Extraordinary Members .

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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"IFCTU European Transport Committee"

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President : R. HONORAT

General Secretary: C. ROELANDT

"Working Party for Food and Agriculture"

Secretariat: 27, rue de l'Association, Brussels 1, Tel. 18 21 71

President : J. M. NOOY

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"European Council of the International Federation of Christian Unions of White-Collar Workers, Technicians, Managerial and Supervisory Staffs and Travelling Salesman"

Secretariat: Korte Nieuwstraat 42, Antwerpen, Tel. 31 38 70

President : K. VAN ROMPAEY

Secretary : G. PANIS

"European Federation of Public Service, Post, Telegraph and Telephone Workers' Christian Unions"

Permanent Secretariat: Bilstraat 118, Utrecht, Tel. 245 89

Secretary: J. VANDECRUYS.

THE 5TH EUROPEAN CONFERENCE OF THE CHRISTIAN  
TRADE UNIONS TO BE CONVENED IN THE SPRING OF

1969

Brussels, 23 February 1968

The Executive Committee of the IFCTU European Organization held its 31st meeting in Brussels on 23 February 1968. Mr. A. Cool, President of the Belgian Christian National Trade Union Centre, CSC, was Chairman.

The Executive Committee began with a wide-ranging discussion concerning preparations for European participation in the IFCTU World Congress in October 1968. The Committee then embarked on an initial discussion of European trade union structure and activities on the basis of the report drawn up following the last European Conference held in Amsterdam on 6, 7 and 8 October 1966.

It was decided to convene the 5th European Conference of the IFCTU European Organization in the spring of 1969.

With regard to trade union activities within the European Communities the Committee reviewed the developments of relations between workers' and employers' organizations at Community level as well as relations with the European Commission. Decisions were also taken with regard to the organization of work with a view to formulating the trade unions' views on the merger of the Treaties

A STATEMENT BY THE EXECUTIVE OF THE BELGIAN  
CSC ON EUROPEAN POLICY

Brussels, 28 February 1968

On the occasion of the Belgian Parliamentary Elections, the Executive of the Confederation of Christian Trade Unions (CSC) issued a public statement drawing the attention of all workers in the country

to the specific problems confronting them.

Below, we reproduce a section of this statement dealing with European policy:

"With regard to European policy in the light of the present situation, the CSC Executive emphasizes in particular:

- the need to bring about greater technological co-operation between governments and between undertakings;
- the need to draw up a European body of law which would encourage the necessary mergers and which must provide the necessary guarantees for the workers concerned;
- the need to arrive at a greater measure of co-ordination between the economic policies pursued by the national governments with the twin objectives of encouraging economic expansion and full employment throughout the Common Market and in each of its regions;
- the urgency, now more than ever before, of having a combined effort by the governments to bring about greater harmonization in the social sphere and to promote social progress in the Community, whilst fully recognizing the right of workers' and employers' organizations to be represented in this work".

In the section of the statement dealing with economic problems, the CSC has the following to say concerning the closing down of undertakings:

"The CSC recalls the need for a proper body capable of identifying and analysing the problems of undertakings which are at risk and of having full guarantees with regard to retraining and re-employment and social benefits analogous with the compensation provided by the ECSC".

MR. STORTI AND MR. VIGLIANESI, GENERAL SECRETARIES  
OF THE ITALIAN NATIONAL TRADE UNION CENTRES, CISL  
AND UIL, REAFFIRM THEIR COMMITMENT TO EUROPE

At the beginning of each year, the Italian trade union leaders hold a press conference in which they review the activities of their organizations during the past year, taking the opportunity to analyse in detail the main political, economic and social problems which the

trade unions have had to deal with and the actions they have taken, particularly at national level.

More and more time is being taken up at these press conferences by European questions.

Below, we reproduce extracts from observations made by Mr. B. Storti, General Secretary of the Italian national centre, Confederazione Italiana Sindacati Lavoratori (CISL), and Mr. I. Viglianesi (UIL), setting out the views of their organizations on the present situation in the Communities.

Press Conference given by Mr. Storti (CISL)

Rome, 13 January 1968

"The activities of the Italian CISL are by no means confined within the narrow limits of our own country; the CISL also takes part in the world-wide trade-union activities of the ICFTU as a whole and also in the work of the trade unions of the six Community countries in particular. A great number of the problems which we have to deal with in our country we meet again at European and world level. This applies just as much to general questions of medium-term economic policy as to specific questions concerning social security, vocational training, an energetic employment policy, the structure of the agricultural sector, transport policy, fiscal and monetary policy etc.

"By taking part in this common task, we are also beginning to get accustomed to considering our experiences in the field of collective bargaining from a common point of view: not only for scientific reasons or for the purposes of comparing policies and methods, but also from purely practical reasons since truly national markets no longer exist as such neither for the firms nor for the workers and since firms now operate on a European and sometimes even an inter-continental scale.

"We believe that we are well placed within the international trade union movement and can therefore assess more comprehensively and more objectively the tensions existing within the world trade union movement and the repercussions these have within our own country. From our vantage point we consider the affiliation of the Italian CGIL to the WFTU - which flies in the face of economic, social and political reality - as one of the main reasons for the delay in uniting the Italian trade union movement. We, for our part, hope that our affiliation to the ICFTU will bring us further yields in the way of experience and valuable lessons, thus enabling us to measure up to the new commitments placed on us every day in our advanced economies and which require independent action by the trade union movement based on new premises".

A Press Conference given by Mr. Viglianesi (UIL)

Rome, 7 March 1968

"We feel that the constant progress being achieved in implementing the principles and objectives of the Treaty of Rome place three kinds of responsibility on the trade union movement. The first relates to the active and effective participation of workers in drawing up and implementing planned policies for the economic and social development of the EEC countries individually and as a group. The Conference on Planning, which took place in Milan, on the initiative of the UIL and under the auspices of the ICFTU European Trade Union Secretariat emphasized the need for trade union participation, particularly with regard to time-limits set by the Treaty of Rome for achieving certain short-term objectives and the great question marks brought in by developments within the sphere of monetary policy pursued by different countries.

"We are still convinced that the defence of monetary stability cannot be given absolute priority over the problems associated with economic development and that stagnation, unemployment and reduced consumption are too great a price to pay for monetary stability. The European trade union organizations could never give their approval to a system of planning in which increases in production and the accumulation of capital would become ends in themselves rather than means of attaining the aims of the highest level of employment, workers earnings and consumption.

"Direct participation by these organizations at all levels of planning remains therefore one of the basic principles underlying our activities.

"Another basic question concerns the enlargement of the Community to cover countries which have put in an application for membership. Being opposed to any kind of nationalism, we intend to support and encourage in every way the laudable efforts of the Italian Government to bring about immediate negotiations with Great Britain and the other countries which have applied for membership. We have maintained and will continue to maintain that the British trade union organizations must be able to take an active and direct part in all the trade union activities carried out within the Community. This would strengthen the efforts of the workers by bringing to bear the wealth of experience and deeply felt solidarity of our fellow workers.

"It is all the more necessary for the trade unions to adopt a firm line on such matters as planning and development at European level

in view of the present steps being taken within the framework of Community activities to organize contacts and meetings between employers' organizations and organizations representing the European public undertakings, contacts which will open the way for future negotiations at supranational level, particularly for firms and sectors whose operations are spread over a number of countries. One should also mention in this connection the drafting of rules for European limited companies, a project in which we are directly interested because the structure of these companies will be laid down in this document. These developments and activities point to the need for close co-operation between trade union organizations in the member countries of the Community through the European Secretariats which the affiliates of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions and the International Federation of Christian Trade Unions and the World Federation of Trade Unions have set up for the effective study of problems arising in the sphere of European integration.

"The UIL, for its part, is perfectly ready to engage in such co-operation, particularly with organizations like the CGIL and the French CGT which, although they belong to the WFTU, wish to co-operate with the other national centres in putting forward the trade unions' claims. Nevertheless, there is still one obstacle to such co-operation, namely the firmly negative attitude of the WFTU towards the principles and aims of the EEC, an attitude which is mainly to be explained by the critical attitude adopted by the Soviet Union towards the Community (although recent signs indicate that the USSR seems ready to accept the actual existence of the Community).

"We wish to reaffirm here that it is our objective to witness the complete implementation of the letter and spirit of the Treaty of Rome in the form of an effective political union of Europe (...) Accordingly, only by referring them to the principle of a united democratic Europe, can there be any sense in the efforts of the CGIL and the French CGT to take part in activities which they themselves, it would seem, agree to be valuable from the point of view of the workers, both within the sphere of economic and social development and in the field of collective bargaining."

#### THE 3rd IFCTU WORLD HOUSING CONFERENCE

Ostend, 13, 14, 15 February 1968

The Christian International Council of Housing held its 3rd World Conference on housing questions in Ostend (Belgium) on 13, 14 and

15 February 1968. The Chairman was Mr. K. Nuijts, President of the Belgian National Union of Building and Wood Workers (CSC). One of the items on the agenda was a report on "housing problems of migrant workers", introduced by Mr. D. H. M. Grasman, General Secretary of the International Federation of Christian Building and Wood Workers' Unions.

Below we reproduce the text of the resolution adopted on this question:

Resolution on the Housing of Migrant Workers

The 3rd IFCTU World Housing Conference, meeting in Ostend from 13 to 15 February 1968, having noticed the report on "the housing of migrant workers in Europe", concludes:

- that, although the migration of workers is very much influenced by cyclical factors, the phenomenon does nevertheless have a structural character which makes it necessary to carry out research into the housing problems of migrant workers;
- that most countries admitting foreign workers have a shortage of dwellings of satisfactory standard and acceptable rents and that the foreign worker is more affected by this shortage than natives of the country, in spite of the absence in the majority of these countries of any formal discrimination against him;
- that in many cases the housing standards of foreign workers must be described as unsatisfactory or even poor;
- that differences in mentality existing between foreign workers and the local population constitute an important factor which has to be taken into account;
- that the unstable employment situation affecting foreign workers makes it necessary that improvements in the standard of dwellings constructed for migrant workers and their families should remain flexible enough to enable them to be used for other purposes;
- that it is necessary to require firms employing foreign workers to ensure that they are properly housed, the management of the property concerned being, however, entrusted to a separate foundation and not to the employer himself, so as to avoid too close links between the employer and the employed person;
- that, on the whole, single persons should be housed in modern dwellings of a reasonable standard;
- that, in drawing up housing schemes, it is necessary to avoid creating ghettos;
- that, in housing married migrant workers, it is necessary to reunite at the earliest possible stage all the members of the family, taking account of the moral problems caused by separation;

- that it is necessary to avoid housing foreign workers and their families in the older districts of towns since they have to be accepted as members of the community enjoying the same rights as other members; it is also necessary to expect the migrant worker to make every attempt to obtain a proper dwelling for himself and his family; institutions which are active in the housing sphere and are closely connected with the trade union movement have an important rôle to play in this sphere; it is necessary to have a social framework which fosters integration;
- that it is necessary to set up a European Housing Fund covering all European countries for the granting of subsidies for the construction of dwellings for migrant workers;
- that local and regional authorities should establish housing standards basing themselves on ILO Recommendation No. 115 and on EEC Recommendation No. 1965, recommendations which should be established locally;
- that it is essential for the authorities to exercise strict control on existing dwellings and those to be constructed so as to avoid any abuses;
- the Conference requests all those concerned to assist towards ensuring that both foreign and national workers obtain or are able to remain in a reasonable dwelling, since this is one of the main factors of all well-being".

THE EFTA (EUROPEAN FREE TRADE ASSOCIATION)

FREE TRADE UNIONS SET UP A SECRETARIAT IN

BRUSSELS

London, 1 February 1968

On 1 February 1968 a meeting in London of the ICFTU-affiliated trade union organizations of six out of the seven countries constituting the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) set up a Trade Union Committee for the EFTA countries (with the exception of Portugal).

The Committee will have its headquarters in Brussels, like the existing European Trade Union Secretariat which covers the ICFTU unions of the Community countries. The following organizations will be members of the new Committee:

The TUC (Great Britain), LO (Denmark), LO (Norway) and LO (Sweden), ÖGB (Austria), and l'Union syndicale (Switzerland).

TRADE UNION MEETINGS AND CONGRESSES

NETHERLANDS: ESTABLISHMENT OF A FEDERATION OF CATHOLIC

UNIONS OF WORKERS IN INDUSTRIAL FIRMS

The Managements Committees of the Nederlandse Katholieke Mijnwerkersbond (Dutch Catholic Miners Union) which has 30 000 members, and of the Katholieke Bond van Werknemers in Industriële Bedrijven Sint Willibrordus) (the Catholic Union of Workers Employed in Industry. St. Willibrordus) which has 48 000 members, have decided to co-operate closely with each other. A proposal will go before the two governing bodies concerned to set up in the form of a foundation, a Federation which will be called "Federatie van Katholieke Werknemersorganisaties in Industriële Bedrijven" (Federation of Catholic Unions of Workers employed in Industry).

This two associations will , as far as possible, operate as a single entity towards third parties and will work with a view to merging.

The two organizations have decided on this form of co-operation and intend to extend it, taking the view that rapid developments taking place in the economic and social spheres make it necessary for the Christian trade union organizations to unite their forces so as to present adequate safeguards for defending and promoting as effectively as possible the interests of workers. There will also be a possibility for other catholic trade union organizations to affiliate to the new federation.

The Management Committee of the Federation will be manned from the bodies who have charge of the everyday running of the two organizations. The President is Mr. H.M. de Groodt, President of "Sint Willibrordus", the secretary Fr. Dehmen, President of the "Nederlandse Katholieke Mijnwerkersbond". The Secretariat will be installed at the office of the Nederlandse Katholieke Mijnwerkerbond" at Heerlen.

The two organizations intend to merge before 1975.

MR. L. ROBERT ELECTED PRESIDENT OF THE FRENCH NATIONAL  
UNION OF MANAGERIAL AND SUPERVISORY STAFFS  
IN THE METAL AND ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES (CGC)

At their meeting in Paris on 10 February 1968, members of the Council of the French National Union of Supervisory and Managerial Staffs in the Metal and Engineering Industries (CGC), after paying tribute to the memory of the late R. Gondoin, who died recently, elected Mr. L. Robert, Member of the Committee of the ECSC Consultative Committee, as President of their national union.

NATIONAL CONGRESS OF THE LCGB (LUXEMBURG)

Luxembourg, 3 March 1968

The Luxembourg Federation of Christian Trade Unions held its Ordinary Congress on 3 March 1968 in Luxembourg. The Congress was attended by more than two hundred delegates and many observers from political and economic organizations.

The Members of the Federation Executive Committee are:

President:	J. Spautz
Vice-Presidents:	E. Gerson N. Kramer
General Secretary:	F. Schmit
Assistant General Secretary and Secretary of the Central Committee:	M. Zwick
General Treasurer:	L. Zimmer
Editor:	J. Braun

THE SALES REPRESENTATIVES EUROPEAN CHARTER EXAMINED  
BY THE CONGRESS OF THE FRENCH NATIONAL UNION  
OF TRAVELLING SALESMEN, SALES REPRESENTATIVES  
AND AGENTS (VRP - FO)

Paris, 24 and 25 November 1967

The Congress of the French National Union of Travelling Salesmen, Sales representatives and Agents (VRP-FO) met in Paris on 24 and 25 November 1967.

The Congress discussed at length the proposed European Charter for Travelling Salesmen, proposed by the sales representatives' section of the German White Collar Workers Union (DAG). J. Disbal addressed the Congress on European questions and on the European Charter for sales representatives.

The following passage is taken from the general resolution:

European Charter For Sales Representatives

"We request speedy action to make good the delay that has come about in the investigation being carried out by the Social Committee of the European Economic Community (EEC) concerning the draft European Charter, in spite of the fact that the frontier will be completely open as from 1 July 1968 following the abolition of customs duties and the institution of free movement of workers.

"No text concerning the harmonization of working conditions has as yet been proposed since the signature of the Treaty of Rome establishing the EEC in 1957.

"This Congress notes that our trade union organization is the only truly representative organization with the European Communities, having our own permanent secretariat in Brussels. We call upon all travelling salesmen and sales representatives to join our ranks so as to strengthen the work of the national unions and defend vocational interests in France today and at European level tomorrow."

The Congress elected the following national Committee: President: H. Grivolos - Vice-Presidents: L. Bec, M. Maillet - General Secretary: P. Meyer.

STATEMENTS BY TRADE AND INDUSTRIAL COMMITTEES

M.G. KOEPKE ELECTED SECRETARY OF THE  
ICFTU METAL WORKERS COMMITTEE

M.G. Köpke was elected Secretary of the European Committee of Free Metal Workers Trade Unions (ICFTU Metal Workers Committee) in succession to Mr. R. Sahrholz, who has just been appointed by the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany Social Attaché to the Embassy in Paris. R. Sahrholz had been secretary of the Committee since it was set up in 1963.

G. Köpke was an instructor at the Frankfurt Labour Academy from 1961 to 1963 and from 1963 worked closely with O. Brenner, President of the German Metal Workers' Union (IG Metall) being specially concerned with European and economic questions.

The following unions are affiliated to the European ICFTU Metal Workers' Committee:

Algemene Nederlandse Bedrijfsbond voor de Metallnijverheid en de Elektrotechnische Industrie, Netherlands;

Centrale des Métallurgistes de Belgique, Belgium;

Fédération Force Ouvrières de la Métallurgie, France;

Fédération Nationale des Ouvriers du Luxembourg, Luxembourg;

Federazione Italiana Metalmeccanici, Italy;

Industriegewerkschaft Metall, Germany;

Unione Italiana Lavoratori Metallurgici, Italy.

The Headquarters of the Committee is 110, Rue des Palais, Brussels 3.

ICFTU EUROPEAN METAL WORKERS' UNIONS PREPARE A

WORKING PROGRAMME

"Les Syndicats Libres CISL et la Communauté européenne", No 1 of March 1968, publication of the ICFTU European Trade Union Secretariat, states that the European Metal Workers' Committee is at present preparing a working programme, the main aim of which is to sketch the "main tasks which the Committee and the affiliated unions will be concentrating their efforts on, particularly during the coming years."

"The need to draw up such a programme emerges also from the far-reaching consequences for the metal and engineering industry, its workers and unions as a result of economic and political changes taking place in each of the countries and throughout Europe as a whole. For this reason, it is necessary to identify at an early stage the specific problems arising and the aims and the measures to be adopted by metal workers' unions in the near future. The Metal Workers' Committee Working Programme should contribute to maintaining co-ordination between the metal workers' unions and serve as a guide in seeking common solutions on trade union tasks .

"Consequently, there is need to establish the main lines of this working programme. It will be indispensable to carry out systematic analysis and thorough investigation of the economic, social and trade union situation throughout the Common Market. This analysis should also draw the conclusions for trade union policy so as to make it possible to establish specific proposals for solving these problems, thus paving the way for putting the programme into action.

"The governing bodies of the unions which are affiliated to the Metal Workers' Committee are still engaged in discussions concerning the framework and specific points to be included in the working programme. Once these discussions have been concluded, a working party set up by the Metal Workers' Committee will draw up the outline of the programme and begin on the drafting.

"This programme is based on recognition of the extent to which the present economic trends must bring about far-reaching changes in the social situation of the workers, a trend which will be even more pronounced in the future. Economic operations based on a much wider geographical area, technological progress, rationalization and mergers, cyclical fluctuations, stagnation and decline of old economic sectors and advances being made by new leading sectors are but some of the factors in these changes".

"Increased accumulation of capital," the ICFTU European Trade Union Secretariat publication continues, "centralization and the

interdependence of economic power as well as the formation of trusts - particularly in the metal and engineering sector - these are taking place not only within the framework of European integration, but also at world level sometimes. Decision taking and effective control are constantly being shifted to higher and higher levels, thus escaping any form of supervision by the trade unions.

"The unions should not lose sight of these developments and should thus develop new strategies and tactics so as to foster the social progress of workers and their own political strength.

"The Metal Workers' Committee Action Programme cannot and must not be confined to laying down appropriate means of combating the adverse social consequences of economic setbacks. Over and above such measures, the programme should indicate paths leading to greater organizational strength and to bringing to bear the political weight of the metal workers' trade unions in Europe".

THE ICFTU EUROPEAN POSTAL, TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE  
WORKERS ASK FOR GREAT BRITAIN TO BE ADMITTED  
TO THE EEC

Brussels, 4 February 1968

Delegates of national trade unions affiliated to the Post, Telegraph and Telephone Workers International (PTTI - ICFTU) in the six countries of the European Economic Community, met in Brussels on 4 February 1968 to discuss questions of European integration from the trade union point of view and to take decisions on their future common activities.

Mr. A. Fossat, of the French National Union of Post, Telegraph and Telephone Workers (CCT - FO) was Chairman and Mr. Aubray, Assistant to the General Secretary of the PTTI, presented the various reports.

The meeting was also attended by Mr. C. Stenger, PTTI President, and Mr. S. Nedzynski, General Secretary.

In a resolution on the enlargement of the Community to take in all the democratic European countries, the PTTI Trade Union Committee for the EEC countries regrets the breakdown in the discussions on Great Britain's application to join the Common Market. It "notes with satisfaction that the British Government has not withdrawn its application for membership and wishes that new real negotiations should begin without delay leading to a favourable development".

After considering the number of hours actually worked per year by the different categories of post, telegraph and telephone workers in the EEC countries, the Committee adopted a resolution on this subject.

This resolution expresses the wish that harmonization of working hours should be based on a forty-hour five-day week with provision for minimum annual leave of one month and approximately ten statutory public holidays.

In a further resolution, the Committee deplores the tendency of private industry in certain community countries to claim that it should run a large part or even the whole of the telecommunication system.

"Considering that these attempts would lead to progressive denationalization of the public postal, telegraph and telephone services for the benefit of international trusts who are perfectly aware of the increasing profitability of operating these services, the PTTI Trade Union Committee for the EEC countries requests that every step should be taken to put an end to such manoeuvres which are harmful to the interests of the staff and in order to retain the essential public service character of the post, telegraph and telephone services".

A STATEMENT BY ICFTU UNIONS ON THE COMMON  
AGRICULTURAL POLICY

Paris, 21 and 22 March 1968

The Working Party of ICFTU Agricultural Workers' Unions in the EEC met in Paris on 21 and 22 March 1968.

In a statement adopted after the meeting, the Working Party reaffirmed "its previous point of view, namely that the EEC common

agricultural policy should guarantee agricultural workers fair wages and working conditions. In this respect it is necessary to take account of the great variety of skills required in agriculture and the constantly increasing need for qualified manpower.

"The Working Party urgently awaits the submission by the competent EEC bodies of the promised reports on the financial situation of agricultural undertakings in member states. These reports should provide information on the financial situation of these undertakings according to region, specialization and the size of undertaking. The practical conclusions for the common agricultural policy should be drawn from the facts as presented.

"Within the framework of the common agricultural policy, prices paid to producers should be established on the basis of the costs of undertakings which are structurally sound. Policy on agricultural prices should aim at preventing disturbances in the balance of supply and demand by reason of structural surpluses. Practices of marketing organizations should not eliminate all competition on the agricultural market but should promote structural changes favouring the emergence of viable undertakings.

"In fixing prices paid to producers, it should be borne in mind that agricultural workers are entitled to the same standard of living as workers having comparable skills in other sectors of the economy".

### III. WFTU UNIONS AND THE COMMON MARKET

#### A MEETING OF THE CGIL-CGT COMMITTEE

Paris, 1 and 2 February 1968

The CGT-CGIL Permanent Co-ordination and Action Committee met on 1 and 2 February in Paris, the meeting being attended by L. Lama, M. Dido, L. Nicosia and U. Scalia from the CGIL (Italy) and by H. Krasucki, A. Bertelot, M. Caille, L. Mascarello and R. Hernio from the CGT (France).

A statement issued after the meeting indicates that the Committee "examined economic and social developments in the Common Market countries and in Western Europe, particularly trends in the level of employment, and considered the growing movement favouring united action in these countries". The Committee also "took the necessary steps for further common united action to activate common activities by the national industrial unions affiliated to the two national centres and to further develop the work carried out by its Brussels Secretariat".

"The CGT-CGIL Permanent Committee", the statement continues, "considers that there are possibilities for making further progress towards securing agreement between the trade union organizations without any discrimination so as to increase their strength and to obtain real rights which would enable them to defend effectively the interests of the workers in the face of an economic and social policy which is dictated by the interests of the monopolies".

A Commentary by "Rassegna Sindacale", official publication of the CGIL (Italy)

Under the title, "The CGIL-CGT makes itself felt in Europe", 'Rassegna Sindacale', publication of the Italian CGIL No. 130 of 25 February 1968 (page 33), comments on the result of the Paris meeting:

"At its last meeting in Paris, the CGIL-CGT Permanent Committee decided to take new common steps at the level of affiliated national unions in both countries and through its Brussels Secretariat. The Committee also pointed out that there are today further possibilities of progressing towards agreement between the trade union organizations of the Common Market countries and those of Western Europe without any discrimination so as to defend the interests of workers in the face of an economic and social policy which is dictated by the interests of the monopolies.

"This decision and this analysis of the situation can be regarded as resulting from the CGIL-CGT meeting held recently in Milan of which they are the logical continuation. The decision of the two national centres to co-operate at European level provides practical confirmation of the wisdom of the line followed by the CGIL and can only enhance its authority and prestige; and from Milan, where certain differences became evident between the points of view adopted by the two national centres but where it was possible to put aside the prejudiced view that absolute agreement in every respect is essential for common action, mutual relations between the two largest Italian and French trade union organizations and their common action based on a sense of European reality came away reaffirmed and strengthened.

"These activities which have their roots and their strength in the deep links uniting the CGIL and the CGT with the working classes of the two countries have put an end to the old discriminations which have now been abolished in substance and no longer just in form. In fact, the CGIL-CGT is physically and directly present in community Europe: through its Secretariat in Brussels, through its contributions towards drawing up a European policy, through its proposals for solving European problems, all these are factors which the Community authorities and the other trade union organizations are obliged to take into account (as was the case in the recent document on the European Social Fund).

"But there is another area where the European momentum of the CGIL and the CGT draws its strength and which drives us forward: the national unions. Here too, the lessons drawn from the Milan meeting are taking on ever greater value with the passage of time. There is tremendous scope for tackling problems arising for individual industrial sectors and categories on the European scale. The present experiences in this field of unions in the transport sector, the food and textile industries, bear witness to this. In this area still, there are increasing possibilities for co-operating with unions belonging to other national centres as shown by the positive response of the Congress of Trade Unions following contacts with CGIL and CGT national unions. The sense of commitment to Europe displayed by the two national centres and their affiliated national unions will not only be intensified in this way but will give a steady improvement in results: this applies to getting to grips with specific problems as it does to contacts with

Community bodies and the scope for bringing the views of the unions to in decision taking."

#### IV. BIBLIOGRAPHY AND DOCUMENTATION

##### COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

"1er RAPPORT GENERAL SUR L'ACTIVITE DES COMMUNAUTES EN 1967"  
(FIRST GENERAL REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMUNITIES IN 1967")  
Brussels Luxembourg, February 1968 (ECSC-EEC-Euratom) Publishing  
Services of the European Communities No. 4325. Published in French,  
German, Italian and Dutch. On sale.

This report covers the months from February to December 1967 as far  
as the ECSC is concerned, the period, March to December, for Euratom and  
April to December for the EEC.

"EXPOSE SUR L'EVOLUTION DE LA SITUATION SOCIALE DANS LA COMMUNAUTE  
EN 1967" (REVIEW OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENTS IN THE COMMUNITY IN 1967")  
Brussels-  
Luxembourg, February 1968. Publishing Services of the European  
Communities No. 4359. Published in French, German, Italian and Dutch. On  
sale.

BULLETIN OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES (ECSC EEC EAEC) No. 2,  
February 1968 Publishing Services of the European Communities No. 4001\*  
On sale. Published in French, German, Italian, Dutch and English.

The contents include:

- A Statement by M. Jean Rey, President of the Commission, to the  
European Parliament, Strasbourg, 23 January 1968;
- The economic situation in the Community in 1967 and the outlook for  
1968 (Statement by M. Raymond Barre, Vice-President of the Commission,  
before the European Parliament, Strasbourg, 23 January 1968);
- Introduction to the First General Report on the activities of the  
Communities in 1967;
- Council decision on transport of December 1967;

EEC

" LE TRAVAIL DOMINICAL DANS LES ETATS MEMBRES DE LA CEE"  
("SUNDAY WORKING IN MEMBER STATES OF THE EEC") "Studies"-Social Policy Series, No. 17. Brussels 1967. Publishing Services of the European Communities No. 8199. Published in French, German, Italian and Dutch. On sale.

The Commission has recently published a study on Sunday working in the six Member States of the European Communities; this study has been drawn up in co-operation with Governmental, employers' and workers' experts from the Member States.

The study gives a detailed analysis of the range of legislative and administrative provisions on Sunday working in the six Member States, dealing particularly with the scope of legal and administrative provisions, the main exemptions to the principle of Sunday as a day of rest or of the weekly rest day, special provisions relating to women and young workers and the implementation and enforcement of legal and administrative provisions.

The study also contains the results of an investigation into the extent of Sunday working in the following five industrial sectors: cement, pottery and ceramics, pulp, paper and cardboard, artificial and synthetic fibres and dairy produce. The study was carried out in a limited number of undertakings so as to give a true picture of the extent of Sunday working.

"ETUDE DE CHAUSSEES ECONOMIQUES EN AFRIQUE" ("A STUDY OF ECONOMIC HIGHWAYS IN AFRICA") Overseas Development Series, No. 5. Brussels 1967. Publishing Services of the European Communities No. 8200. Published in French. On sale.

This study was carried out by the "Compagnie d'études du Congo" (Congo Studies Company) and the "Centre expérimental de recherche et d'études du bâtiment et des travaux publics" (Experimental Research Centre for Building and Public Works) and is published in the EEC Overseas Development Studies Series (500 pages).

The study is published in French and is on sale at 600 Belgian francs. It is a technical work and contains graphs and tables which will be understood by all technicians.

A summary of the introduction and of the study itself is published in German, Italian and Dutch.

"LES ECHANGES COMMERCIAUX DES PAYS EN VOIE DE DEVELOPPEMENT AVEC LES PAYS DEVELOPPES ET NOTAMMENT AVEC LA CEE" 1953-1966. (TRADE BETWEEN DEVELOPING AND INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES, PARTICULARLY THE EEC COUNTRIES, 1953-1966) "Studies" - Development Aid Series No. 1 - Publishing Services of the European Communities No. 8224. Brussels 1967. Published in French, German, Italian and Dutch versions will be published later. On sale.

This document, which is published by the Directorate for Development Studies of the General Directorate for Development Aid, brings up to date and complements a previous study on trade between developing countries and industrialized countries, particularly the EEC countries.

The work begins by outlining the general characteristics of world trade over the period, 1953-1966, and of the overall external trade of developing countries on the one hand and of the industrialized countries on the other.

The second part presents a regional breakdown of the external trade of developing countries, grouped in regions, with all industrialized countries.

The third part which is concerned exclusively with trade between the developing countries and the EEC, brings out the particularly dynamic rôle of the Community, compared with other highly industrialized regions, in promoting the growth of trade earnings of countries in the Third World.

The document has also an annex on the meaning and use of the concept, terms of trade, as well as a large number of statistical tables on trade for the period, 1953-1966.

"COMMISSION ADMINISTRATIVE POUR LA SECURITE SOCIALE DES TRAVAILLEURS MIGRANTS-Sixième et septième rapports annuels sur la mise en oeuvre des reglements concernant la sécurité sociale des travailleurs migrant". (Administrative Commission for the Social Security of Migrant Workers-6th and 7th Annual Reports on the application of provisions on social security of migrant workers.) 1964 and 1965. Brussels, 1967. Publishing Services of the European Communities, No. 1030. Published in French, German, Italian and Dutch. On sale.

"BIBLIOGRAPHIE SUR LES TRANSPORTS DANS L'INTEGRATION EUROPEENNE"  
"Bibliography on transport in the context of European Integration".  
Brussels, 1967 (multi-lingual edition). Publishing Services of the European Communities. On sale.

The Commission has published a bibliography of works and articles

dealing with the transport sector in the context of European economic integration.

1 800 titles are listed, all of which have appeared since 1951, thus showing the interest shown by scientists, politicians, the professions and the press in the problems inherent in European transport integration.

The work has a subject index and gives the reader an exhaustive overall view of studies and opinions on a most topical subject.

#### ECSC

"BILANS DES SOCIETES CHARBONNIERES DE LA COMMUNAUTE 1966" (The Accounts of the Coal-Mining Companies of the Community for the Year 1966). Publishing Services of the European Communities, No. 14164. Limited Distribution.

"BILANS DES SOCIETES SIDERURGIQUES DE LA COMMUNAUTE 1950-1966" (The Accounts of the Iron and Steel Companies of the Community for the period, 1950-1966). Publishing Services of the European Communities, No. 14011. Published in French, German, Italian and Dutch. Limited Distribution.

"PROBLEMES ECONOMIQUES DE L'AMERIQUE LATINE" vol. I. Conception et réalisation de l'intégration économique de l'Amérique Centrale (G. Lara) (Economic Problems of Latin America, Vol. I.-The planning and implementation of the economic integration of Central America. By G. Lara). Published in French. Limited distribution. Publishing Services of the European Communities, No. 14139.

VOL. II.-Historique et evolution de l'ALALC 1962-1966 (A. Zorrilla) (Vol. II.- The History and Development of the "Asociación latinoamericana de libre comercio" (ALALC)) Published in French. Limited distribution. Publishing Services of the European Communities No. 14143.

"COLLECTION D'INFORMATION PRATIQUE"-No.1-Journée d'information pour médecins d'entreprise et techniciens de la santé et de l'hygiène du travail (Düsseldorf, 18. 1. 1965). (Practical Information Series, No. 1. The Seminar held on 18 January 1965 in Düsseldorf for Works Medical Officers and Technicians specializing in Industrial Safety and Medicine.) On sale. Publishing Services of the European Communities, No. 13669.

"LA CONSOMMATION D'ENERGIE DES MENAGES EN REPUBLIQUE FEDERALE D'ALLEMAGNE-EVOLUTION RETROSPECTIVE ET PREVISIONS JUSQU'EN 1975" (Household Energy Consumption in the Federal Republic of Germany - past development and forecast up to 1975). Publishing Services of the European Communities No. 13735. Published in French, German, Italian and Dutch. On sale.

#### EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

"PARLEMENT EUROPEEN - DIX ANNEES 1958-1968" (The European Parliament-Ten Years, 1958-1968) Published by the General Directorate for Parliamentary Documentation and Information. Publishing Services of the European Communities No. 4331. Published in French, German, Italian and Dutch.

L'UNIVERSITE EUROPEENNE (The European University) General Directorate for Parliamentary Documentation and Information. Publishing Services of the European Communities No. 4305. Published in French, German, Italian and Dutch.

A collection of documents with a preface by M. Mario Scelba, President of the Political Commission.

#### GENERAL DIRECTORATE FOR PRESS AND INFORMATION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES

The General Directorate for Press and Information of the European Communities publishes a series of dossiers in several languages dealing with the most topical issues arising in European integration. Dossiers recently published include:

In French: "L'économie française dans le Marché commun" (Documents no.46) (The French economy in the Common Market).

"Nouvelles universitaires européennes" no. 24 (European University News, No. 24)

In German: Die deutsche Wirtschaft und die EWG (Eine Studie der deutschen CEPES-Gruppe) The German Economy and the EEC (A Study by the German CEPES Group) (Brochure)

In Italian: La politica di sviluppo tecnologico della Comunità (documenti no. 28) (The Community Policy on Technological Development)

"L'evoluzione congiunturale della Comunità e la situazione monetaria internazionale-consuntivo '67, prospettive '68" (documenti no. 29) (Cyclical Trends in the Community and the International Monetary Situation: the final situation at the end of 1967 and the outlook for 1968).

These publications may be obtained by writing to the General Directorate for Press and Information of the European Communities in Brussels (244, rue de la Loi), Luxembourg (18, rue Aldringer) or from the offices in Bonn, Paris, The Hague, Rome, Geneva, London, New York or Washington.

"LES DOSSIERS PEDAGOGIQUES" D'EUROPE-UNIVERSITE (THE "EDUCATIONAL DOSSIERS" OF "EUROPE-UNIVERSITE")

The "Europe-Université" Association has prepared a series of educational dossiers ("dossiers pédagogiques") for use by secondary school teachers. We feel that these might also be of interest to heads of trade union schools and labour training centres.

Number 16 (February 1968) contains the following lessons:

- Mergers of firms in the European Community
- Trade between the EEC and the United States
- OEEC
- Ten Years of Euratom (Part IV).

These dossiers, which are published in French, are available to subscribers. Enquiries should be addressed to Association "Europe-Université", Secretariat, 2, rue de Mérimée, Paris 16.

MISCELLANEOUS

"DIMENSION EUROPEENNE DU SYNDICALISME OUVRIER" (TRADE UNION OPERATIONS ON A EUROPEAN SCALE) (2 volumes) by M. Michel and J. De Grave, 26, rue D'ysburgh, Brussels 9.

A Memorandum submitted to the Institute of Political and Social Sciences of the Catholic University of Louvain (Belgium), February 1968.

LA FONCTION SUPRANATIONALE (Présidents, membres, juges des Communautés européennes, étude comparée des personnalités et des Collèges (1952-1967) (THE SUPRANATIONAL FUNCTION (Presidents, Members and Judges of the European Communities - a comparative study of personalities and bodies) (1952-1967) by Nicole-Céline Braun.

A Research Thesis (Fondation nationale des sciences politiques, directeur Prof. Gerbet, 1967, Paris).

OU SONT LES SYNDICATS? (WHAT IS THE POSITION OF THE TRADE UNIONS?) in "Agenor - European Review - revue européenne" No. 5. Published in French and English (Agenor, B.P. 54, Brussels 4).

"ETUDES UNIVERSITAIRES SUR L'INTEGRATION EUROPEENNE no. 4/1967 vol. 2 (UNIVERSITY STUDIES ON EUROPEAN INTEGRATION). Published by the European Community Institute for University Studies, 51, rue Belliard, Brussels 4.

"LIN" (Lehr- u. Informationsmappe für politische Bildung) (Educational and Information Dossier for Political Education) No. 1. "Die Europäische Integration" (European Integration).

Die Europäische Aktionsgemeinschaft (European Action Association) Bonn, Stockenstrasse 1-5, has recently published through "Europa Union Verlag GmbH" (Cologne), a fully illustrated educational dossier. Seven maps and 17 sheets printed on stiff paper present a concise general review of the most important events in the process of European integration.

Beginning with the forerunners of European unification, the dossier traces its development and reviews the decisive stages: the Marshall Plan, OECD, NATO, the Council of Europe, the European Communities, EFTA etc. The publication is primarily of interest for schools but could also serve as a handy reference work on European questions.

"LO SVILUPPO DEL MEZZOGIORNO E LA POLITICA REGIONALE EUROPEA"  
(The Development of Southern Italy and European Regional Policy)

The recently published Record of Proceedings of the Assembly of the Italian United Socialist Party held in Tarento on 7, 8 and 9 July 1967 on the theme, "The Italian South in the 'Seventies".

One of the reports submitted to the Assembly, that presented by Mr. R. Ravenna, National Secretary of the UIL, dealing with "The Development of Southern Italy and European Regional Policy", is of particular interest.

The rapporteur defines the problem of the "Mezzogiorno" as "not only a national question but also a real Community problem".

Above all, it is by adopting an appropriate European regional policy that the activities of the EEC can be translated into hard facts, since such a policy would be the most concrete expression of the Treaty of Rome and of Europe as a democratic reality.

Until now, Southern Italy has been considered as a "labour reservoir" which has been used in furthering the development of other already advanced regions. This, however, is inconceivable in a Community such as the European Community where it is being attempted to strengthen economic unity and foster harmonious development by reducing disparities between different regions and in making good the extent to which the less favoured regions have lagged behind.

Mr. Ravenna feels that the gulf between the rich and the poor zones is, in fact, widening rather than narrowing: for this reason the "Mezzogiorno" problem is becoming more and more a European problem and, for the same reason, it is becoming increasingly urgent to have a policy which is adapted to dealing with this problem.

"Regionalization of Community policy and the action which will then have to be taken in the Mezzogiorno," the rapporteur continues, "are the basic elements of the new European stability and a necessary condition for avoiding situations within the EEC which could compromise future developments".

From the national point of view the Italian Government has a duty to take positive steps in drawing up a regional programme for the Mezzogiorno which should not only embody the directives set out in the "Five Year Development Plan" but should also express the objective rate of balanced growth for the Community.

From the Community point of view it will be necessary, in order to obtain regionalization of economic policy, to modify and increase with a view to making them more effective, resources set aside for solving these problems, e.g. the European Social Fund, the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund and the European Investment Bank.

Mr. Ravenna tends his report by recalling the part played by the Italian trade unions in European policy and in solving the Mezzogiorno problems which now involves the workers' vital interests and by wishing for a greater commitment on the part of all those concerned with these interests.

"IL PARLIAMENTO EUROPEO" (The European Parliament) by Enrico Vinci.  
Edit. Dott. A. Giuffr , Milan 1968

#### TO OUR READERS

THIS PUBLICATION IS INTENDED TO KEEP THE TRADE UNION LEADERS OF THE COUNTRIES OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY INFORMED REGARDING THE VIEWS OF DIFFERENT TRADE UNION ORGANIZATIONS ON THE CONSTRUCTION OF EUROPE. THE OPINIONS EXPRESSED ARE THOSE OF THE AUTHORS, AND MUST NOT BE TAKEN AS COINCIDING WITH THOSE OF THE COMMUNITY INSTITUTIONS

Editor's Note

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