



The services directive must strengthen competition and social cohesion

EUCDW: Parliament needs a coherent position

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„We need a European services directive which strengthens competition, the creation of jobs and social protection.“

The EUCDW, the workers association of the European People's Party (EPP), expects that the European Parliament take a strong influence on the expected revision of the services directive.

To achieve this aim it will be necessary to finally adopt a coherent, (socially) balanced and practicable position in the Plenary with a large majority.

The so called „country of origin principle“ as proposed by the EU commission (which obliges enterprises only to the law of their country of origin) can not prevail. It has to be ensured that the EU member states do not treat companies from other EU member states differently to their domestic companies.

This will succeed if the European Services Directive focuses mainly on removing bureaucratic obstacles and on providing more transparency and simplicity in the area of the freedom of establishment.

The EUCDW welcomes the announced approval of the position of the social affairs committee: “The directive does not apply to social and employment law and to health protection.” The same applies to the protection of the environment as well as to public security and public order.

Another point is to leave the responsibility and authority for controls with the Member State where the services in question are provided. Standardised procedures can, however, simplify cross-border information exchange.

In view of the services of common interest, it is furthermore necessary to state clearly that the freedom of the member states to identify certain principles of their organization and certain ways of financing them is not touched by this Directive in question.

It is intended that by these amendments the service directive will enable the member states, the enterprises and the social partners to use the opportunities for growth in the service sector and to protect the rights of the workers.

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