



Don't play with European social welfare standards!

Permanently enshrining the employment protection opt-out would be the end of the idea of an undivided economic and social welfare area

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The EUCDA is opposed on issues of European social welfare protection to an 'à la carte' Europe. It cannot be that internal market regulations apply to every country and area of the economy, while in the area of social welfare certain countries insist on having an opt-out. The best example of this is the Working Time Directive.

The EUCDA is therefore calling on the German EU Council Presidency, and in particular on the German Minister for Employment, to stand up **for an undivided European social welfare area**. Wherever the rules of the internal market apply, so too must European social welfare standards.

Any movement away from the principle that the economy and social welfare have to go hand in hand will inevitably lead to a movement by workers away from this EU.

The EUCDA therefore calls on the German EU Council Presidency and the EU Commission not to deviate on the question of the **Working Time Directive** from the principles laid down by the EU Parliament. **Retaining the opt-out for a few countries is certainly too high a price to pay for a compromise.**