



Equal Opportunities for Temporary Workers and permanent Employees!

EUCDW welcomes Efforts made by European Commission

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The EUCDW welcomes all considerations of the European Commission to improve the situation of persons working in precarious jobs. A good example was the proposal of Commissioner Vladimir Spidla to offer temporary workers the same salaries and social benefits that are offered to permanent employees after six weeks of employment. In doing so, he follows the principle of "equal pay for equal work".

The EUCDW calls upon employers' associations to point out new ways of how these objectives can be attained instead of generally disapproving of these proposals.

By the way, extended rights of temporary workers also include an improvement of training opportunities and of health protection at work.

The EUCDW supports all initiatives of the European Commission to establish appropriate regulations in this respect. Just like Commissioner Spidla, the EUCDW is convinced that many enterprises make use of the instrument of "temporary work" with a great sense of responsibility, but that there are also some that use temporary work as a pure means of cost containment and even lay off personnel to this end. Temporary workers must only be employed with the objective of bridging shortfalls in personnel and surges in orders.

It cannot and may not be the case that industrial relations lapse into a „hire and fire“ mentality, in which the ideal employees are those not bound by a professional past or by social relations and in which enterprises are only interested in themselves, only thinking of a short-term profit maximisation.

The European Commission is also expected to follow the model of social market economy that counters this capitalist freedom by means of solidarity, social cohesion, and corporate social responsibility.

The European Union of Christian Democratic Workers (EUCDW) is the workers' organisation of the European People's Party (EPP) with 24 member organisations from 18 different countries.

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