



# Motions 2016-2020

2<sup>nd</sup> Congress of  
industriAll Europe

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## IndustriAll European Trade Union's **Motions 2016-2020**

As adopted by the 2<sup>nd</sup> industriAll Europe Congress on 8<sup>th</sup> June 2016

### **Vote for a Vision of a Better Europe**

Voting in favour of Britain staying in the European Union is a vote for solidarity and for a vision of a better Europe. It is not a vote for the policies of David Cameron or support for the policies of austerity that have ravaged Europe.

The role of the trade union movement will be vital in this referendum campaign. The nationalist forces that have long driven the policies of the UK's Conservative government and that have also taken root to a worrying degree in across many EU Member States, must not be appeased by side deals. They need to be met head-on.

Britain, like the rest of Europe, is better off as part of a union based on solidarity than by itself, and at the mercy of the forces of a rapidly changing world in these times of globalisation.

Investment in UK manufacturing and hundreds of thousands of jobs will be put at risk by re-erecting political borders and economic hurdles that have long been deconstructed.

Brexit would put fundamental rights at risk for UK workers. A vote to leave would mean that the European Social Charter, which guarantees that workers be treated fairly at their workplace, receive holiday pay and maternity leave and which provides the protection of minimum standards as set out in the Working Time Directive, would cease to be applicable for Britain.

For 60 years the E.U. has been a foundation for peace between European neighbours. But, a vote to leave would dramatically weaken the EU at a time when it is already under unprecedented strain. This would pose a danger, not just to British workers, but also to workers and their trade unions across Europe. This referendum will have huge implications, not just for Britain, but for Europe as a whole.

However, the European Union was never meant to be a collection of rules based on the lowest common denominator. It can be and needs to be so much more.

Europe has to overcome tremendous challenges such as the youth unemployment crisis, the integration of the many refugees that have recently landed in Europe in search of safety and a better life, overcoming growing inequality and tackling climate change. International challenges that require an international response that the EU should lead.

The EU has failed too often in its core responsibilities of late, accommodating too many special interests and doing too little for the common good of its citizens and particularly for its working population.

Pressing issues such as increasingly precarious working conditions, strategic undercutting of working conditions and social dumping are problems that trade unions throughout Europe are having to face. But we know that they can only be tackled jointly.

We need to rebuild a Social Europe that has provided stability and prosperity to the continent for more than half a century. A better Europe is possible. Europe and Britain will be better off within a united European Union.

If the UK leaves and the EU breaks up, we should be under no illusion that what is lost is lost forever – to the detriment of working people everywhere.

As trade unions, we have to unite in our commitment to take on the challenge of restoring and further developing our vision of a Social Europe.

IndustriAll Europe commits to doing whatever is necessary to support the campaign for the UK to remain in the EU, and to then fight for the better Europe we all want.