



# 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

### **The European Union must demand that Mexico respect labour and human rights as a condition for expansion of the EU-Mexico free trade agreement**

On 24 May 2016, the European Union and Mexico announced that they would begin negotiations in June 2016 on expansion of the EU-Mexico Free Trade Agreement.

The revision of this agreement may have a significant impact on workers in both the European Union and Mexico, especially taken in conjunction with the EU-Canada Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) which has already been negotiated and the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) which is currently under negotiation.

IndustriAll Europe is alarmed by the deteriorating human rights situation in Mexico. The systematic complicity of government officials and security forces in forced disappearances, extrajudicial executions by security forces, attacks on human rights defenders and journalists, persecution of refugees and asylum seekers - and the government's failure to prosecute human rights violators - have been documented by the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights, Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch and other impartial observers.

Despite international pressure, Mexico continues to systematically violate international labour standards regarding freedom of association, the right to organise and collective bargaining. Specific concerns include corruption and conflict of interest in the Conciliation and Arbitration Boards, the pervasive use of employer-dominated "protection contracts," and delays in union representation elections. Gender discrimination, child labour, and workplace health and safety are also serious ongoing problems. These violations have been extensively documented in the reports of ILO supervisory bodies and independent experts.

IndustriAll Europe calls on the European Commission and the Mexican Government to conduct these negotiations transparently and based on consultation with civil society, specifically the democratic trade union movements of Mexico and the EU. Given the continued attacks on human rights defenders, journalists and independent trade unions in Mexico, we are especially concerned that affirmative measures be taken to include these voices. The Mexican Government cannot be allowed to conceal the negotiating texts from its own people, or to carry out simulated negotiations with government-sponsored "civil society" organisations.

IndustriAll Europe, in coordination with the ETUC, the ITUC and TUCA, IndustriALL Global Union and its Mexican affiliates, will raise these concerns with Members of the European Parliament, with the European Commission and with our national governments.