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## Collective Bargaining News: 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2019

### Wage Negotiations

- **Germany:** IG Metall has negotiated a new agreement for the steel sector, ensuring a 3.7% pay rise and a package of qualitative improvements. [Read more](#)
- **Germany:** In the future, textile workers in Eastern Germany will work the same weekly hours as workers in the West. This harmonisation will be implemented gradually. [Read more](#)
- **Italy:** FIM-CISL and UILM-UIL have signed a renewed agreement with Fiat Chrysler Automobiles, CNH Industries and Ferrari for the next 4 years (2019-2022). A pay rise and several qualitative improvements were achieved. [Read more](#) FIOM-CGIL has explained why they did not sign the agreement. Having conducted a survey among company workers, they defined a demand platform, started negotiations, but did not reach an agreement with their counterparts. [Read more](#)
- **Romania:** After 10 weeks of a general strike, workers at the Electrolux plant in Romania won a tough labour conflict. [Read more](#)
- **Denmark:** CO-industri has started preparations in view of the collective bargaining round in 2020. A timeline has been agreed. [Read more](#)
- **The Netherlands:** FNV and CNV Vakmensen have issued a warning to employers in the metal and engineering sectors. If they do not negotiate seriously, there will be yet another strike in these sectors. [Read more](#)

### Trade Union Actions

- **Italy:** Metal workers organised a general strike in Milan, Florence and Naples over the future of their industry on 14 June 2019. [Read more](#)
- **Switzerland:** On 14 June 2019 women across Switzerland took to the streets protesting the country's slow path to gender equality. [Read more](#)

## European Policies

- **The EU:** The Romanian presidency hosted a conference called 'A new start for collective bargaining' on 25 June 2019. IndustriAll Europe took part together with other trade unions, employers' associations and governments. [Read more](#)

## National Policies

- **Ireland:** A new law aims at curbing zero-hours contracts. [Read more](#)
- **Germany:** The first ever minimum wage for apprentices will be introduced and raise the living standard of tens of thousands of young people. [Read more](#)

## Study Reports

- **ETUI:** A new report details trade union membership in 32 European countries since 2000, focusing particularly on the age structure within trade unions. [Read more](#)
- **ETUC:** A report has been published on new forms of employment, which among other topics deals with formal obstacles to collective bargaining for the self-employed. [Read more](#)
- **EU Commission:** A new report by the European Social Policy Network (ESPN) puts forward several recommendations and calls for more effective policy action to tackle in-work poverty. [Read more](#)
- **ITUC:** The annual Global Rights Index documents violations of collective labour rights by governments and employers, also in several European countries. [Read more](#)
- **ETUI:** Restoring multi-employer bargaining in Europe: prospects and challenges. [Read more](#)
- **The Bertelsmann Foundation:** How are you doing, Europe? Mapping of social imbalances. [Read more](#)



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## Articles

- **Luca Visentini (ETUC):** The EU is facing a twofold emergency — not only the democratic threat posed by nationalism and extremism, but also social challenges that include unemployment, precarious work, poverty pay and cuts to vital services. [Read more](#)
- **Georg Hubmann (Marie Jahoda-Otto Bauer Institute, an Austrian-based think tank):** The future of the EU, to a large degree, will depend on more equality and fairness among the states to boost societal approval of a common Europe founded on solidarity. Includes: link to a new European website on inequalities. [Read more](#)
- **Kate Bell (the British Trades Union Congress -TUC):** I'm taking Friday off — permanently. [Read more](#)
- **Vincent Deganck (ABVV Metaal/industriAll Europe):** This youth generation is the first in Europe since World War II to be worse off than the previous. [Read more](#)

## Legal issues

- **CJEU:** Member States must require employers to set up a system to measure daily working time. If such a system does not exist, it would be excessively difficult, if not impossible, for workers to ensure that their rights are upheld. [Read more](#) CJEU Press release [here](#)