Collective Bargaining News: 2\textsuperscript{nd} 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
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