

Italian metal unions prepare revision of national agreement.

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FIM-CISL, FIOM-CGIL and UILM-UIL have jointly formulated a platform for renewal of their three-year agreement for metalworkers. The platform represents cohesion, fairness, and innovation. The renewal of the agreement will take place at a time characterised by rising living costs, ecological and digital transitions, wars, and geopolitical tensions. This all calls for socially equitable solutions and better protection for industrial workers.

In the Italian economy, the metal agreement covers:

- 1.5 million workers
- 30,000 companies
- 8% of GDP
- 6% of employment
- 45% of exports
- 44% of industrial employment.

The main goal of the three unions will be to protect the purchasing power of workers by increasing wages. Minimum wages must be adequately revalued in line with inflation. In addition to pay, the agreement regulates qualitative aspects such as working hours, qualifications, training, sickness, supplementary social security, and supplementary health care. It is generally applicable, but of course the role of trade unions is fundamental. Without them, no agreement could ever be reached.

FIM, FIOM and UILM have all consulted their members to ensure a democratic process towards adoption of their demands. They have now developed a platform that will represent the needs of metalworkers and put industrial work back at the centre for coming generations.

From Monday 26 February, meetings will be held in the plants to present the platform, which will be subject to secret ballot. After that, negotiations will begin with the two employers' associations, Ferdermeccanica and Assital.

The current agreement signed in February 2021 expires on 30 June 2024.

Edited by industriAll Europe.