

Social Europe Demo in Luxembourg on 5 July 2008 at 14.00 hrs

The trade unions of the European region called „Grande Région“, which includes the Grand-Duchy of Luxembourg, Wallonia in Belgium, Lorraine in France, as well as Saarland and the Western part of North Rhine-Westphalia in Germany, are calling for a cross border demo in favour of Social Europe.

The demo is a reaction to the recent judgment of the European Court of Justice in the case brought to the Court by the European Commission in the framework of the Luxembourg transposition of the Posting Directive.

As you know, the ECJ upheld the Commission's complaint on all points, considering that the way in which Luxembourg has implemented the Posting Directive is an obstacle to the free provision of cross border services. This judgment is in the same vein as the Laval and Rüffert judgments in that they all narrow down the scope for Member States and social partners to ensure a proper functioning of their labour markets when it comes to foreign companies posting workers to their territory. The judgment is also a blow to the principle of equal rights to all workers on the same national labour market.

It is urgent that the European trade union movement insists on adding an advanced Social Protocol to the European Treaty that clearly asserts, in a binding manner, the primacy of fundamental rights, including worker rights and trade union rights, over economic freedoms.

The trade unions of the Grand Region will demonstrate in the City of Luxembourg in front of Mr. Juncker's Office, Place de Clairefontaine, on Saturday 5 July 2008 at 14.00 hrs.

All are welcome to join!