
Collective Bargaining News: 2nd Quarter 2018

Wage Negotiations

- **The Netherlands:** The Dutch unions are organising protests and industrial actions across the country. Negotiations with the metal and electrical employers electrical have stalled. [Read more](#)
- **Denmark:** A pioneer agreement has been negotiated with a digital platform in the cleaning sector. The agreement secures wages, pensions, holidays, etc. for the workers. [Read more](#)

European Policies

- **The European Commission:** In June 2018, the Council adopted positions on work-life balance, social security and employment contracts. [Read more](#)
- **The European Commission:** In 2018, the country-specific recommendations dedicate special attention to social challenges for the first time, guided by the European Pillar of Social Rights. [Read more](#)
- **The European Commission:** More needs to be done in order to ensure dignity for pensioners across Europe. [Read more](#)

National Policies

- **The Czech Republic:** Trade unions are demanding shorter working time by cutting the maximum working week for all workers by 2.5 hours per week, without wage decrease. [Read more](#)

Articles

- **Liina Carr (ETUC):** Social protection should guard against the major risks of life. It should break the cycle of poverty that otherwise passes easily from one generation to the next. [Read more](#)
- **Ronald Janssen (TUAC):** Today's profits are not tomorrow's investments despite low interest rates. Low union densities are a more relevant explanation to falling wage shares than new technology. A wage-led recovery is needed. [Read more](#)

Economic and social data

- **Eurostat:** Employment in the EU grew by 1.4% in the first quarter of 2018 compared with the first quarter of 2017. In total, 237.9 million people are employed in EU-28. [Read more](#)
- **Eurostat:** GDP in the EU grew by 2.4% in first quarter of 2018 compared with the first quarter of 2017. The growth was highest in the new Member States. [Read more](#)

Study reports

- **ITUC:** The annual global index on trade union rights such as collective bargaining and strikes, has been published. [Read more](#)
- **ILO:** A new book analyses densities, coverage and extensions, mostly in Europe. [Read more](#)
- **Eurofound:** *Living and working in Europe*, Eurofound's 2017 yearbook, provides a snapshot of the latest developments in the work and lives of Europeans. [Read more](#)
- **Eurofound:** Despite improvement in the labour market in recent years, the legacy of the crisis is still the substantial increase in long-term unemployed youth. [Read more](#)
- **Eurofound:** Germany is the country with the largest reduction of wage inequality in 2015, thanks to the new minimum wage. [Read more](#)
- **The ETUI:** Why are wages still lower in eastern and central Europe? [Read more](#)