



Dear Colleagues

Dear Friends

**Euromf**, in cooperation with the **European Centre for Workers' Questions (EZA)** and with the support of the **European Commission**, would like to invite you to the seminar:

## “THE ROLE OF LABOUR ORGANISATIONS IN THE GREEN DEAL”

### CONTEXT AND AIM

In the autumn of 2019, the Von Der Leyen committee presented the Green Deal. Its objective is to ‘transform the EU into a fair and prosperous society, with a modern, resource-efficient and competitive economy where there are no net emissions of greenhouse gases anymore in 2050 and where economic growth is decoupled from resource use’. The corona crisis has also once again demonstrated that we will have to relate to our planet in a different way.

Workers' organizations can play an important role in the realization of the Deal. We will have to ensure that achieving objectives is always accompanied by social justice. But it is also important that workers' organizations are aware of the content and importance of this Deal. After all, the Green Deal wants to focus on 'protecting the health and well-being of citizens from environment-related risks and impacts. At the same time, this transition must be just and inclusive.' These are also key core values of workers' organizations.



In order to achieve a circular economy, certain jobs will disappear and others will be created. It is important that decent work is essential in these new jobs.

Social dialogue also has a role to play in the Green Deal. For example, the Climate Pact will build on exchange within the social dialogue committees. In addition, the Deal recognizes the importance - for companies and their workers - of social dialogue actively helping to anticipate and successfully manage change. In order for this social dialogue to run smoothly, it is important that the labour organizations are well informed about the theme: what role can labour organizations play in carrying out the Green Deal?'. The environmental change must always go hand in hand with social justice. We must always be aware of the strong regional differences within the EU. It is therefore important that there is good exchange between the labour organizations of the different regions within the EU. This way, better-supported positions can be reached.

Both the academical as the practical side of the story will be brought to attention.



## PROGRAM

### Thursday 10 February A.M.

- 8.45 Registration and explanation of the use of the technology
- 9.00 Welcome and moderation
- **Bart Gaublonne**, president of Euromf
- 9.05 Introduction
- **Cindy Franssen**, member of the European Parliament, Group of the European People's Party
- 9.15 Social justice in the European Green Deal: analysis and policy recommendations
- **Louise Hoon** (NL), scientific assistant at Think Tank Minerva and political scientist (VUB)
- 10.00 Actions to counterbalance social outcomes
- **Esther De Lange** (NL), member of the European Parliament, member of the Environment, Public Health and Food Committee
- 10.45 Q&A
- 11.00 Coffee break
- 11.15 CASE: successful conversion of an old mine and industry site into a thriving tourist & economic national park and high technology & science park
- **Ignace Schops**, Director National Park Hoge Kempen, Goldman Prize Winner, member of the Climate Leadership Corps of Al Gore
  - **Wim Dries**, Mayor of Genk and president of VVSG (Association of Flemish Cities and Municipalities)
- 12.15 Q&A
- 12.30 Lunch break

### Thursday 10 February P.M.

- 13.45 Welcome and moderation
- **Bart Gaublonne**, president of Euromf
- 13.50 Climate ambition and social justice in an international context: points of view from trade unions and results COP26
- **Bert De Wel**, climate policy officer at ITUC (International Trade Union Confederation)
- 14.50 CASE: 'Energiehuis' (Energyhouse) Limburg and the Social Energyjump: new opportunities for jobs in the construction industry.
- **Carien Neven**, president of 'Energiehuis' Limburg and president of social housing company Cordium
- 15.25 Q&A
- 15.40 Coffee break
- 16.00 How can a trade union contribute the transition towards a climate neutral industry? Experiences in Swedish steel production
- **Johan Hall**, research officer at the Swedish Trade Union Confederation (LO) and member of the Sustainability Group at the European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC)
- 16.45 Q&A and closing words
- 17.15 End of day 1



Friday 11 February A.M.

- 9.00 Welcome and introduction
- **Peter Wouters**, president of Beweging.net
- 9.10 Circular economy and the Green Deal: opportunities and consequences for the employment
- **Kris Bacchus**: research leader environmental policy and sustainable development at HIVA
- 10.00 How is the social dialogue within the EU organized in implementing the Green Deal and the Fit for 55 program?
- **Judith Kirton-Darling** (UK), Deputy General Secretary of IndustriALL Europe, representing manufacturing, mining and energy workers from 38 European countries
- 10.45 Q&A
- 11.00 Coffee break
- 11.15 **Matheus Szymanski**, International Department of the NSZZ Solidarnosc
- 12.30 Q&A
- 12.45 Closing words
- **Luc Van Den Brande**, president of EZA

#### DATE AND VENUE

The seminar will take place digitally on **February 10 and 11, 2022**.

#### CONFERENCE LANGUAGES

Simultaneous interpretation in **English, Spanish, German and Dutch**.

#### REGISTRATION FEE

The participation fee has been fixed to the amount of 30 €/totality or 10 €/daypart (10 €/Thursday AM - 10 €/Thursday PM - 10 €/Friday AM).

**Please indicate this on the registration form.**

IBAN: BE04 0688 9173 1131

BIC: GKCCBEBB

Message: Eza-seminar 02-2022 + name participant(s)

#### REGISTRATION

Registration and payment **before 5/02/2022**.

Please send completed registration forms to [euromf@euromf.be](mailto:euromf@euromf.be).

For more information, please contact : [carien.neven@beweging.net](mailto:carien.neven@beweging.net) or +32 473 88 51 12.

I look forward to seeing you.

Yours sincerely,

Carien Neven, Secretary Euromf