



TOGETHER FOR A FAIR DEAL FOR WORKERS

IS/AB/gb

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MEP Frances Fitzgerald
MEP Evin Incir
MEP Nathalie Colin-Oesterlé
MEP Pina Picierno
MEP María Soraya Rodríguez Ramos
MEP Lucia Duriš Nicholsonová
MEP Diana Riba i Giner
MEP Sylwia Spurek
MEP Malin Björk
MEP Eugenia Rodríguez Palop

[Letter sent by e-mail]

Dear Co-rapporteurs,
Dear Shadow rapporteurs,

I am contacting you regarding the concluding negotiations on the draft Directive combatting violence against women and domestic violence.

We are appalled to learn that a necessary majority of EU Member states is not willing to settle behind a common and harmonized approach of the criminalisation of rape, based on lack of consent. The unacceptable and unfounded position of Germany and France, in particular, sheds a dark light on the European Union's commitment towards a "Union of Equality". The ETUC and our affiliates have relayed messages to this effect.

The ETUC welcomes the leadership you have shown throughout the ongoing negotiations and your relentless efforts in delivering a landmark Directive despite the obstacles put in your way.

As negotiations appear to be concluding, the ETUC encourages you to take a strong stand on preventing and combatting gender-based violence in the world of work, which must include, for the purpose of the draft Directive, the criminalisation of sexual harassment, as well as decisive measures preventing and combatting third-party violence, domestic violence and cyber violence, negotiated and shaped by trade unions. Women workers across Europe need to be ensured that their safety in the world of work is not a bargaining chip and that employers will be required to fully meet their duty of care, including towards victims and survivors of domestic violence. It is of outmost importance that trade unions will be able to play their part here, engaging with employers in social dialogue and collective bargaining to make workplaces safe spaces. The same goes for health and safety representatives.



The ETUC expressly welcomes the constructive work undertaken by the co-rapporteurs and shadow rapporteurs, as per Recital 50c), Recital 51, Recital 51a), Article 4 g), Article 6 d), Article 30 and Article 31 a) of the European Parliament's mandate.

We place our confidence in you to deliver a transformative piece of legislation, refuting any further attempts to weaken protections from gender-based violence of women workers in the draft Directive.

Thank you for all your work towards a Directive that makes Europe a safer place for all women and girls.

Kind regards,

Isabelle Schömann
Deputy General Secretary