

#StrongerEFFAT

EFFAT's demands for a better Europe for workers

Technological innovation, the ongoing climate crisis, the persistence of neoliberal policies and the increasing virulence of nationalist movements, not to mention greedy capitalism pose a variety of challenges to EFFAT and its affiliates - they are a threat to working people in Europe. Building the power of workers has never been more important. Strong trade unions protect and enhance workers' rights, and will be central to guaranteeing social justice, peace, democracy and a fair and sustainable Europe for all.

With this in mind, EFFAT is ready to deliver on a practical, forward-looking strategy to improve workers' employment rights and working conditions with strong engagement and a clear action plan.

A pay rise and decent working conditions

All EFFAT workers deserve a pay increase and decent working conditions without precariousness. Dignity at work across sectors can only come from sound industrial relations and strong collective agreements. Such agreements should apply to all workers, including the most vulnerable groups such as domestic or platform workers. Coupled with regulatory provisions, nationwide collective agreements shield workers from inequality and in-work poverty, granting them a fair share of productivity gains.

A healthy planet for a just transition

EFFAT sectors undoubtedly have a substantial impact on the environment; yet our members are also greatly affected by climate change with thousands of jobs at stake. Addressing the climate crisis is therefore both an occupational priority and a human responsibility for EFFAT: we must intensify the fight to save the planet, transitioning quickly towards an environmentally sustainable food supply chain from farm to fork, aided by the implementation of concrete, future-oriented regulatory measures based on science. Trade unions must stand together at the forefront of this battle for our future.

An end to sexual harassment and violence at the workplace

The ILO Convention 190 on Violence and Harassment needs to be swiftly ratified through binding legislation enacted to deliver better working conditions and an end to gender-based violence at work. EFFAT will fight to ensure that everyone has the right to earn a living without fear of violence or harassment.

People before profit

EFFAT demands a new sustainable business model that champions workers' interests. We must put a stop to short-term financial interests – especially the unyielding focus on shareholder value – dictating how publicly-listed companies are run: in order to maximize profit, share price and dividends, companies are implementing business strategies that are hurting workers across Europe. EFFAT calls for the urgent adoption of EU rules that combat financial speculation, prevent tax avoidance, and guarantee fiscal justice.

Integration of migrants into the labour market

EFFAT stands for the rights of all workers irrespective of nationality or immigration status. It is a matter of deep regret that the exploitation of migrants by employers is prevalent in all our sectors; urgent action is therefore required to ensure migrants can integrate into the European labour force, with proper access to quality jobs as well as the workplace training to allow them to progress in their chosen field.

A sustainable food supply chain grounded on social standards

EFFAT firmly believes that a sustainable food supply chain underpins respect for social standards and the dignity of workers. No funds, subsidies and procurement strategies should ever overlook the working conditions of those employed throughout the entire food supply chain.