



European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC)
Confédération européenne des syndicats (CES)

Brussels, 3 April 2007
JM/JN/gp

Subject: 1st May and ETUC Public services petition

Dear colleagues,

The last ETUC Executive Committee, in Rome on 20-21 March, agreed to put the petition on public services at the centre of ETUC campaigning.

We have made some progress, and now have around 111 000 signatures. We expect more to arrive in paper form in the coming days. But we need 10 times as many!

So the ETUC urges you all to step up your efforts to collect signatures - particularly on **1st May**.

Please make sure on your **May Day demonstrations, that there are enough colleagues to walk through the lines to collect signatures on the paper version.**

1st May is the best possible opportunity to collect the signatures we need to meet our target before the Congress.

But please also use the traditional means: asking colleagues to go out and collect signatures is the key to success – for example in post offices, stations, on public transport, in hospitals, childcare centres and residences for older people etc.

The internet is a supplementary tool that should be used as effectively as possible to achieve our objective. Here are just two examples:

- An easy tool exists for annexing publicity for the petition, in your own language, to all e-mails you send out, but only very few affiliates use it.
- You can give a prominent, very visible place to the petition not only on your national but also your regional and local website home pages, as well in TU newsletters- which have been little used up to now.

We still have seven weeks to do more - much more.

We know that some affiliates are making good progress, but there are others who have not yet taken important and vital steps.

The ETUC - and the public services unions - cannot afford this campaign to be a flop. So, let me ask you again to turn the petition into a trade union victory and deal with it as your core business in the weeks to come.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Monks". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

John Monks
General Secretary