



*EURELECTRIC, Union of the Electricity Industry*  
*EPSU, European Federation of Public Service Unions*  
*EMCEF, European Mine, Chemical and Energy Workers' Federation*

**Press Release – 7 November 2003**

**“Electricity Sector Social Partners hold Balkan Regional Conference on the Social Implications of the Internal Market for Electricity, 7 – 8 November 2003, Bucharest**

Employers' and trade unions representatives of the energy sector of the Balkan countries are meeting, on the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> of November 2003 at the Best Western Parc Hotel from Bucharest, to discuss the social implications of the European Union internal market for electricity, whose rules the new member states joining the Community over the next three years have to apply. The conference is organised by the Union of the Electricity Industry – EURELECTRIC, representing the employers and EPSU/EMCEF for the trade unions and takes place within the official framework of the European Social Dialogue, with financial support from the European Commission.

Representatives of employees and trade unions from Romania, Bulgaria, Turkey, Cyprus, Italy and Greece attend the conference.

Silviu Lucian Boghiu, the Director General of Electrica, welcome the guests and declared: “the social dimension of the electricity system is also an important preoccupation in Romania”. He added that “trade unions and employers, together with the government, have to find solutions that have as limited an impact as possible on companies, employees and citizens”.

A message was presented on behalf of Iulian Iancu, Secretary of State with the Ministry of Economy and Coercion: “electricity is important for all branches of industry and society. There are many challenges to be solved in a short time. We accept to implement the European legislation”. The social dialogue is an essential element of that. Also, the importance of creating future regional electricity markets was underlined.

The President of the Unions trade union, Aurelian Vancea, speaking on behalf of the three Romanian trade unions in the electricity sector welcome the opportunities for the dialogue with all stake holders. He greeted the efforts made by the Ministry of Economy and Commerce, but underlined “much needs to be done regarding the dialogue with other ministries concerned”.

Also, on behalf of the European social partners, points of view were expressed by Mrs. Aurora Rossodivita, representative of EURELECTRIC; Mr. Jean-Pierre Klapuch, representative of EMCEF and Mr Jan-Willem Goudriaan, representative of EPSU.

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