Update on minimum wage directive and working time

Europe

EPSU organised an online working group on 5 April to bring affiliates up-to-date with developments on the Adequate Minimum Wages Directive and to provide them with background on the 4-day week campaign. Lorenzo Repetti, advisor at the ETUC, indicated some of the key issues that were being covered in the trialogue negotiations on the Directive between the European Commission, Council and Parliament. He noted that some key provisions to strengthen collective bargaining that were supported by the ETUC were being challenged by the Council. Lorenzo reported on positive developments in relation to ensuring that all workers are covered by the directive and that the definition of collective bargaining would refer specifically to trade unions and not just worker representatives. Joe O'Connor, currently running the 4-day week campaign in the US, explained how the campaign was working with a series of pilot projects and highlighted some of the key arguments being addressed in relation to the potential benefits of a shorter working week (gender equality, environment and well-being) as well as the impact on productivity.

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