

To: Members of the EP Internal Market  
and Consumer Protection Committee  
Cc: Coordinators and political groups

[Letter sent by e-mail]

**Re: Public procurement and concessions**

Dear Member of the European Parliament,

On 21 February, the Internal Market and Consumer Protection Committee (IMCO) will discuss the proposal to enter into triologue negotiations on these dossiers. ETUC and EPSU are concerned that such a procedure will circumvent further debate.

Overall, ETUC and EPSU stress that the inclusion of social considerations, including the mandatory respect of national labour law and collective agreements of the place of work, must constitute the central guideline in the upcoming stages. Transparency for citizens and quality services are also key principles.

Concerning concessions, ETUC and EPSU consider that triologue negotiations would be premature and ultimately weaken the European Parliament's position vis-à-vis the Council and Commission. The proposed text in IMCO cannot constitute a credible basis for negotiations and does require more in-depth analysis. In particular, more work is needed on the scope of the Directive. Far from clarifying the legal situation, the IMCO amendments would create considerable difficulties in determining which services are included in the "light" regime and which are not.

It should be recalled that eleven members of the IMCO Committee from five different political groups have tabled amendments to reject the Commission's proposal on concessions. This clearly shows that the proposed Directive must not be rushed in. ETUC and EPSU therefore urge you to take the necessary time for the fine tuning of a strong first reading position in the European Parliament, with a view to positively influence the overall legislative process.

Yours sincerely,



Bernadette Ségol  
ETUC General Secretary



Carola Fischbach-Pyttel  
EPSU General Secretary