

## Postal services need a social frame

We want to warn against the consequences of the privatization and the liberalisation of services not only in the European Union but globally. Declaration of the 6th meeting of the trade unionists of the Party of the European Left, Berlin 21 November 2009



We want to warn against the consequences of the privatization and the liberalisation of services not only in the European Union but globally.

Without a balanced social frame, liberalisation of postal services will lead to more aggressive competition with downward pressure on wages and working conditions. The postal directive focuses on companies' benefits and dismisses the need for better services for the public.

Postal services are a public good and should stay under public control in order to secure universal access to qualified services with affordable prices. Under public control, the security and privacy of mail as well as employment protection on decent standards is much easier to organise than otherwise.

From this point of view, co-operation within and between countries is necessary. European trade unions need to struggle together against the liberalisation of postal services with all appropriate means, such as sector or branch wide agreements, depending on the tradition of each specific country.

To give the necessary space for these collective arrangements, we ask the European Parliament to postpone the implementation of the postal directive. We urge for employment protection, working conditions, and the quality of full time jobs in order to promote the universal quality of postal services and sustainable development

Source: [http://www.european-left.org/english/home/news\\_archive/news\\_archive/artikel/postal-services-need-a-social-frame/](http://www.european-left.org/english/home/news_archive/news_archive/artikel/postal-services-need-a-social-frame/)