



## EPSU solidarity message

### Demonstration for jobs and rights for all, Italy, Saturday 25 October 2014

(Brussels 24 October) EPSU's Italian affiliates of CGIL will demonstrate on Saturday 25 October for jobs and rights for all workers. EPSU expresses its solidarity as amid the resurgence of far right anti-migrant movements across Europe, the union-backed national demonstration is an important opportunity to show trade union support for migrant workers, documented or not, as part of the battle against racism, xenophobia and social dumping.

Your demands are fully in line with the EPSU Congress resolution on migrant workers adopted last May on behalf of 8 million public service unions, such as :

- ✓ Equal treatment of all workers at the workplace
- ✓ issuance of residence permits for migrants subject to exploitation by unscrupulous employers
- ✓ extension of the residence permit for migrant workers who are made redundant
- ✓ jus soli, or right of soil rules, for full citizenship and right to vote
- ✓ a effective asylum policy in respect of Italian Constitution and UN 1951 Geneva Convention for refugees
- ✓ abolition of prohibitive administrative fees for the renewal of residence permits

The demonstration comes on the heels of a controversial EU joint police operation 'Mos Maiorum' that started on 13 October until 26 October. Coordinated by the Italian Ministry of Interior in cooperation with Frontex, its stated aim is to curb trafficking of migrants and apprehend undocumented migrants in the Schengen area. This operation had led to protests by trade unions and migrant support groups in EU cities and questions were raised earlier this week in the European Parliament.

EPSU condemns the criminalization and detention of migrants that have committed no crimes. Police raids targeting people on the basis of their physical appearance amount to ethnic discrimination. The involvement of Frontex goes beyond its brief limited to EU external borders. Rather than police roundups that will further criminalise migrants and asylum-seekers, EU leaders must share collective solidarity between member states and develop safe legal ways to access protection in Europe for women, men and children in danger.

Wishing you much success with a very timely demonstration tomorrow, and also for the mobilisation for the demonstration 8 November together with the public service unions of CISL and UIL.

In solidarity,

Jan Willem Goudriaan  
EPSU General Secretary

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