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The EU's Health and Safety strategy: The untold story

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CONTENT

- 1. Occupational health and safety in the EU
- 2. History the EU- OSH strategy
- 3. How can unions influence?



STATE OF OSH IN EUROPE

- Demographic shifts affecting the European workforce.
- Job-related stress has been increasing.
- Some 'old' risks still remain a problem and may impact in new ways: psychosocial issues and musculoskeletal disorders.
- New and emerging risks: new materials, nanomaterials, new industry sectors.
- Lack of awareness is the principal barrier to prevention.
- Reduction of resources on OSH and preventive services.
- Few workers report a good work life balance.
- Workers die because of unsafe practices.



Lack of awareness is the principal barrier to prevention

Reduction of resources on OSH and preventive services

Few workers report a good work life balance

Workers die because of unsafe practices



THE HEALTH AND SAFETY STRATEGY

HISTORY

1978: First action programme for health and safety at work in the EU.

1987: Adoption of the Single European Act
[Health and Safety at work explicit in the Treaty]

2001: EU strategy adopted for the period 2007 – 2012

2011: New strategy announced for the period 2013 – 2020 EP ask for a new strategy



2012: In the Luxembourg Advisory Committee on Health and Safety, social partners and governments adopted an unanimous opinion in the plenary meeting of December 2012, asking the Commission to draw up the final text of a new strategy without delay.



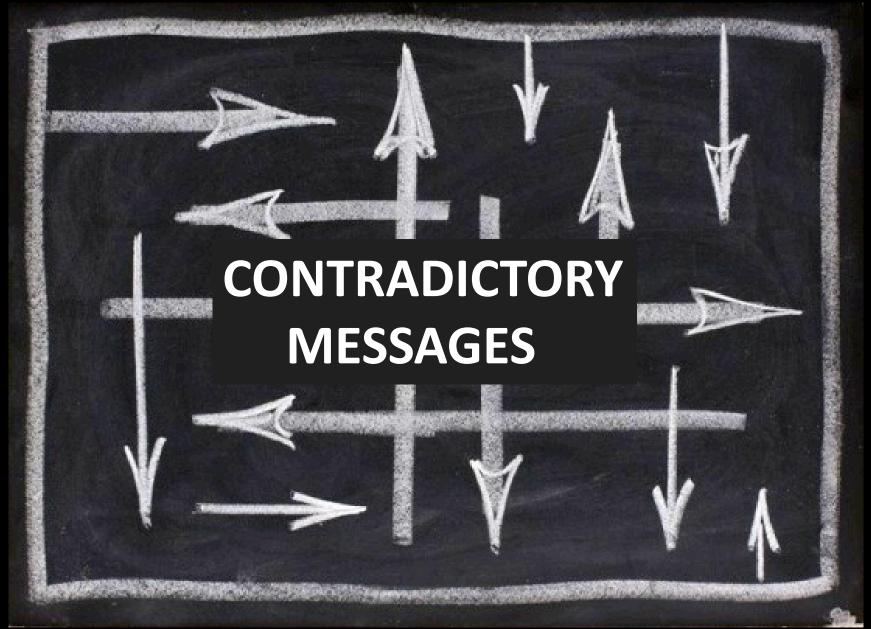
The EC informally announced a delay arguing that the priority was the financial **crisis**.



Under the Cyprus Presidency, EC announces the opening of an internet public consultation

A bypass of the social partner agreements





2013: ETUI Conference on the European Health and Safety Strategy 2013-2020

Commissioner László Andor announces a new delay: The internet consultation would be available in 3 months.

The consultation is a new democratic way to evaluate the EU policy.



2013: Exchange of letters:

- April 11, 2013: From ETUC & workers group spoke person to Barroso.
- April 16, 2013: From: Barroso to ETUC & workers group spoke person.

"Your letter has been transmitted to the responsible cabinet, which is looking into the points you have raised and will respond to you rapidly on the President's behalf. For any additional information, may I suggest you contact Mr László Andor, Member of the Commission responsible for employment, social affairs and inclusion (e-mail:Laszlo.andor@ec.europa.eu)."





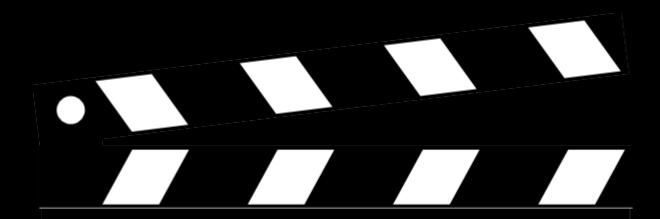
HOW CAN UNIONS INFLUENCE? AN INVESTMENT

EU – OSH legislation guaranties protection to workers. Impedes deregulation

Big debates need to be solved at EU level (MSD, CMR, EMF Directives).

Solidarity is essential for the EU policy.





Public consultation on the new EU

health and safety policy framework

http://ec.europa.eu/yourvoice/ipm/forms/dispatch?form=h ealthandsafety

Deadline:

August 26, 2013



Thank you

The Untold Story: the EU's Health and Safety

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sQ4mnHGRcqM&feature=c4-overview-vl&list=PLEMGazkRRWoGe0o22HlJCLRMNrgChCbTk **Strategy**

