

Coal industry restructuring

Energy policy from the social perspective
8 July 2015





IndustriAll European Trade Union

- **Founding Congress of the new federation on May 16th, 2012 to Brussels**
EMF, EMCEF and ETUF-TCL
- **Over 200 affiliates, about 7 million members**
- ***In 35 Countries***

**Ulrich Eckelmann
General Secretary**

Political Management,
Industrial Policy

General Strategy

ExCom, SteerCom

Communication, Press,
Media

Transport Equipment

SD MET

Database Economy

Personnel matters

Financial affairs

**Luc Triangle
Dep. Gen. Secretary**

Company Policy

EWC, Restructuring,
Company Agreements,
Database

Textile, Clothing, Leather

ICT

Training & Education

Internal Organisation

Project Management

Regions

**Bart Samyn
Dep. Gen. Secretary**

Collective Bargaining
Policy

Basic Metal

Mechanical Engineering

Defense SWP

Health & Safety
Nepsi

Social Policy
Labour Market

EUCOBAN

Equal Opportunities

**Sylvain Lefebvre
Dep. Gen. Secretary**

Social Dialogue

Social Dialogue Policy
Committee

11 SSDCs
Extractive industry
Paper / Chemical / Gas
Electricity / Textile /
Tanning / Stell / Met
Industries / Shipbuilding /
Footwear / Nepsi

Energy Industries

Extractive Industries

Basic Materials

Pharmaceuticals

Youth



European Energy Policy

- Industrial employment in Europe finds itself under extreme pressure. The most severe economic crisis of the modern era has yet to run its course. As a consequence, over 4 million manufacturing jobs have been lost in Europe, including in energy-intensive sectors. The reasons for this development are manifold and rising energy cost have created additional pressure.
- IndustriAll Europe believes that the Europe energy infrastructure is in need of investments and reforms that would lay the basis for a sustainable just transition and modernisation of Europe's industry.

European Energy Policy

Biggest challenges for European energy politics are:

Promote access to energy at affordable and less volatile prices for the whole of the population and industry

Guarantee a secure supply of energy sources with the eventual objective of reducing fossil fuels in the energy mix in a social acceptable manner.

Promote European independence in terms of its energy capacities, facilitating an improvement in its foreign trade.

Invest in the modernisation of energy infrastructures and distribution networks and as well be able to fulfil the necessary CO2 emission reductions and the development of industry and employment.

Develop grid technology and connectivity.

And most importantly, safeguard and create employment

European Energy Policy

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Political context

As the European Trade Union Federation that represents the interests of 7.0 million workers across supply chains, industriAll Europe insists on the importance of the social dimension of climate and energy policies in Europe

With a view to the 2015 summit in Paris, industriAll Europe acknowledges the proposal for a 2030 energy and climate policy framework by the European Commission

Therefore a global agreement on credible Greenhouse gas reductions is needed, in order to stop climate change.

The adoption by the European Union of a regulatory framework for 2030 is a necessary condition for the conclusion of an international agreement in Paris in 2015, but it is also an economic, social and political necessity for a Europe

A 2030 climate and energy policy framework has to be holistic and must link the objectives of mitigation of climate change with the need for competitiveness, security of energy supply in Europe and the need to reduce the EU's dependence on energy imports

A Trade Union Approach

Energy and industrial policy are linked and should complement each other in order to ensure a socially just transition

Universal access to essential energy services needs to be secured to all people living in Europe

Consideration should also be given to support for enterprises directly impacted by high energy prices

Europe must push for ensuring its energy independence and diversify its energy supply with focus on domestic solutions

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The challenge for energy policy is therefore manifold: First, maintain competitiveness of the European economy, especially for energy-intensive industries and safeguard employment. Second, ensure Europe's position at the cutting edge of energy technologies and, finally, deliver on European climate objectives and a globally binding agreement

Competitiveness and Security of supply

The Commission outlined in its communication its intention to reverse the declining role of industry in Europe from its current level of around 16% of GDP to as much as 20% by 2020.

The affordability of energy is a crucial factor for the competitiveness of energy intensive industries

At the same time, it will remain necessary to retain **bridge technologies, such as modern and efficient coal-fired powerplants**, that ensure sufficient flexible power production to back up intermittent energy supply.

The involvement of Social Partners in the decision-making process is crucial.

European Energy Policy

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Keeping in mind the objective of reduce in time, fossil fuels in the energy mix, strong anticipation mechanisms are key in a process of a just transition to a clean energy production.

The reduction out of coal mean a loss of jobs that will concern some regions more than others. There needs to be compensation mechanisms and structural support for those regions. The anticipation of changing demands for skills and the re-skilling of workers are key elements to accompany this transition.

Energy and industrial policy are linked and should complement each other in order to ensure a gradual and socially just transition towards an eco-efficient modernisation of industrial production throughout Europe that avoids social hardship through anticipation.

Thank you!
Sylvain Lefebvre

