



Appeal for Decent Work in Lithuania

*to the next Government and Parliament of the Republic of Lithuania
to the President of the Republic of Lithuania*

The Trade Unions in the Nordic and Baltic countries are deeply concerned about the newly adapted social model package in Lithuania, including a new Labour Code that will be put in force on in January 2017.

The new Labour code in its current form will dramatically deteriorate workers' fundamental rights and conditions in Lithuania through undermining conditions determined in collective agreements and contracts. The Labour Code will also significantly worsen conditions for Trade Unions in Lithuania and undermine the Social Dialogue.

The new labour law code deteriorates working conditions in a number of areas in relation to working hours and regulations, through introduction of zero-hours working contracts and by treating different categories of workers unequally. The new labour law also restricts and weakens the rights and roles of Trade Unions through the introduction of compulsory workers' councils in companies, that are being assigned Trade Union Functions. In addition the new code reduces the role of the tripartite Council, that was founded in 1995 in accordance with ILO recommendations. This is not acceptable.

The Code is in sharp contrast with ILO conventions 87 and 98 on the Freedom of Association and on the Principles of the Right to Organise and to Bargain Collectively as well as the European Social Charter and European Convention on Human Rights.

The Nordic and Baltic Trade Unions demand that the Lithuanian Labour Code is immediately amended, by the next parliament after elections, so that, at the very least, it meets the international standards set in ILO Core Conventions, that Lithuania has signed in 1994. The code should in no way undermine Human Rights in working life.

Furthermore, we demand that the Lithuanian Labour Code should be re-reformed so that it ensures Decent Work for all and secures good social protection in Lithuania. We also want to underline that the development of the Social Model in Lithuania should ensure fair social conditions for all.



On the world Day for Decent Work, 7th of October, 2016

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