HOW SHOULD THE LABOUR MOVEMENT RESPOND TO CETA, TiSA AND TTIP? PROSPECTS FOR SOCIALLY JUST GLOBALIZATION

November 10TH TO 11TH, 2014, BERLIN

PROGRAM

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10TH, 2014

9.00 h       Arrival and Welcome Coffee
10.00 h       Welcome and Introduction

Jörg Bergstermann, International Dialogue, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES)
Michael Fischer, Division for Economic and Social Policy, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES)
Dr. Dierk Hirschel, Head of Economic Department, United Services Union (ver.di)

11.00 - 13.00 h  CETA, TiSA, and TTIP – what is the state of play?

Input
Dr. Heinz Hetmeier, Head of the Trade Policy Division, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy
Discussion
Chair: Jörg Bergstermann, FES

13.00 - 14.00 h  Lunch

14.00 - 16.00 h  The current proposals in the negotiations: How will they affect the provision of (public) services in the participating countries?

Inputs
Larry Brown, National Secretary Treasurer, National Union of Public and General Employees - NUPGE, Canada
Dr. Martin Beckmann, Policy Department, ver.di
Discussion
Chair: Michael Fischer, FES

16.00 – 16.30  Coffee Break
16.30 - 18.30 h The process: How are the deals negotiated and in what ways can labour influence the negotiations?

Roundtable-Discussion
- Public opinion on the current trade deals?
- Official participation of civil society and trade unions?
- Trade unions: positions and strategies on national level?

Chair: Dr. Dierk Hirschel, ver.di

18.30 - 18.45 h Outlook on the second day of the workshop

19.00 h Transfer to restaurant Il Valentino – Dinner
(Kurfürstenstr. 56, 10785 Berlin, Tel.: +49 (0)30 26398263)

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11TH, 2014

9.00 - 10.45 h The deals before us: What issues should labour prioritize as it attempts to guide the current trade negotiations in a more socially just direction?

Input
Julien Laflamme, Research Unit, Confederation of National Unions (NSC), Canada

Discussion
Chair: Michael Fischer, FES

10.45 - 11.00 h Break

11.00 - 12.45 h Discussion: Building a Framework for Socially Just Free Trade and Globalization – the Role of International Organisation

Short Inputs
Penny Clarke, Deputy General Secretary, European Federation of Public Service Unions (EPSU)
Jürgen Buxbaum, Coordinator Public Administration and Multinational Enterprises, Public Services International (PSI)
Christina J. Colclough, Head of EU Affairs at UNI Europa – UNI Global Union

Discussion
Chair Dr. Dierk Hirschel, ver.di

12.45 - 13.00 h Conclusion: What have we learned from developments so far in CETA, TTIP, and TiSA and where do we go from here? Next steps for a pro-worker globalization.

13.00 h Lunch, end of workshop
CENTRAL QUESTIONS FOR THE SESSIONS ON POSITION EXPLORATION
- What should unions demand from the trade agreements?
- How can unions improve coordination and communication on trade and globalization issues?
- What non-negotiable standards can unions agree on and which should be included as minimum protections of workers, consumers and the environment in currently negotiated and future trade deals?

FORMAL REQUIREMENTS
- Conference language will be English (if this is not possible, please contact us)

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TERMS OF PARTICIPATION
The Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung will cover your travel expenses and your accommodation according to the German federal law on travelling expenses. During the workshop you will be our guest.