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# PRESS RELEASE

EUROPEAN TRANSPORT WORKERS' FEDERATION

FEDERATION EUROPEENNE DES TRAVAILLEURS DES TRANSPORTS

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Brussels, 27 January 2014

## STOP JEOPARDIZING JOBS IN EUROPEAN SKY

### ETF demands a social dimension inside the Single European Sky in its second European Action Day on 30 January 2014

Following the call of the European Transport Workers' Federation (ETF), Air Traffic Controllers (ATCOs) and the entire Air Traffic Management (ATM) employees are mobilising for a new European Action Day on 30 January 2014 to demand the establishment of a fair, cooperative and social Single European Sky (SES). They will hold parallel walkouts, rallies, meetings and strikes across Europe calling on the European Parliament to stop a never ending process of liberalisation and cost cutting in the ATM industry. ETF affiliates from Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, France, Hungary, Italy, Portugal, Slovakia, Sweden and UK are participating in the Action Day.

On 30 January 2014, the Transport Committee of the European Parliament (TRAN) will vote on the package called SES2+ based on market principles, top-down approach and cost reductions, which would jeopardize safety and the number and quality of jobs.

**François Ballestero**, ETF Political Secretary states: *"The ATCOs and the entire ATM staff are suffering from a performance scheme dominated by a continuing cost reduction and in which safety is not considered to be the first priority. We refuse cuts in staff. The Commission intends to unbundle support services, which are sometimes the core of the industry. ETF rejects this approach, which doesn't take into account the integrated public service role of the ATM sector. ETF calls the TRAN Committee of the European Parliament to stop dogmatic liberalisation of the ATM industry"*.

*"If we oppose a unique model of Functional Airspace Blocks (FABs), it is because we believe the FABs must be based on strong cooperation and a bottom-up approach",* says **Riccardo Rubini**, Chair of the ETF ATM Committee. *"We also ask the TRAN Committee to make the 'human factor pillar' binding in the future legislation. We are in favour of a SES that respects the jobs, the working conditions and the existing collective agreements. The ETF calls all ATM workers in Europe to join the Action Day on 30 January 2014"*.

For further information, please contact François Ballestero, ETF Political Secretary, [f.ballestero@etf-europe.org](mailto:f.ballestero@etf-europe.org)

The ETF represents more than 2.5 million transport workers from 243 transport unions and 41 European countries, in the following sectors: railways, road transport and logistics, maritime transport, inland waterways, civil aviation, ports & docks, tourism and fisheries.