



Galerie Agora,
Rue du Marché aux Herbes 105, Bte 11
B-1000 Brussels
Telephone +32 2 285 46 60
Fax +32 2 280 08 17
Email: etf@etf-europe.org
www.etf-europe.org

European Transport Workers' Federation
Fédération Européenne des Travailleurs des Transports
Europäische Transportarbeiter-Föderation
Federación Europea de los Trabajadores del Transporte

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**#FAIR
TRANSPORT**



ETF SUPPORTS THE 24 H STRIKE ACTION OF THE ITALIAN RAILWAY UNIONS FILT-CGIL, FIT-CISL AND UILTRASPORTI, FIGHTING FOR SOCIAL PROTECTION AND DECENT WORKING CONDITIONS OF SUB-CONTRACTED RAIL SERVICE WORKERS

The ETF and the ETF Railway Section Steering Committee, which met on 27 September 2018, supports the battle of the more than ten thousand Italian workers involved in catering on board trains, cleaning trains, stations and offices, setting up night trains and assisting the disabled who are again on strike for the 3rd time within 4 months **on Friday 26 October 2018** to maintain their employment and their rights.

This staff works in the many companies throughout Italy that perform the above services for Ferrovie dello Stato, services that are assigned by the FS Group through dozens of tenders. Workers in the so-called Italian "rail contracts" participated massively in July and September in two national strikes to protest against:

- entrusting of service lots put out to tender with excessive discounts,
- continuous changes in the contract for the award of services that lead to the non-application of the legal provisions governing the sector,
- the non-application of social and employment clauses,
- the exhaustion of social security benefits.

"The entire Steering Committee is close to the many workers involved and supports the ETF-affiliated trade unions Filt Cgil, Fit Cisl and Uiltrasporti – says the president of the ETF Rail Section, Giorgio Tuti. We share their concerns and the problems they are facing are those that we have been denouncing for some time in European fora, demonstrating that the pressure on the rail sector to become competitive has a very negative impact on workers' rights.

At European level, it is denied that there is social dumping in the rail sector, but we know that this is not the case, and the commitment that we have made in our work programme 2017-2022 is to demonstrate, by means of the concrete examples that our affiliates have given us, that



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companies base competition in the internal market on lowering labour costs and worsening conditions for employees. As is increasingly the case with outsourcing of this type of activity".

This statement of support for Italian workers constitutes part of the actions that the railway section is implementing as part of the Campaign **Fair Transport** which involves the entire European Transport Workers Federation, in the various specificities of individual sectors, but with the common slogan: "**Stop social dumping – for safe and social rail transport in Europe**".

"We hope that the Italian workers of the firms involved in the railway contracts soon win this battle to give dignity to their occupation, so that they obtain the necessary contractual guarantees, wages, regulations and safety" – continues president Giorgio Tuti – "knowing full well that, with the opening of competition in the European railway market, the quality of the job in the sector, in every single country, now also has a direct connection with and a strong impact on the railway workers of other countries".

"Finally, it should not be forgotten that the elimination of forms of dumping and the improvement in worker protection" – concludes president Tuti – "has a significant positive impact on improving the quality of the final service for citizens and users."



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