

# EURO COP BULLETIN

JUNE 2023

## The European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) 15th Congress

The ETUC was founded in 1973 and currently comprises 93 national trade union confederations in 41 countries, plus 10 European trade union federations.

Congress decides the organisation's general policy. It takes place every four years and is attended by delegates from national confederations and European trade union federations. It elects the members of the Executive Committee, the President, the General Secretary, the two Deputy General Secretaries and the four Confederal Secretaries.

The Executive Committee is made up of representatives of the ETUC's member organisations. Every year it meets four times and can approve joint positions and agree on actions in support of its demands. The Executive Committee also has the power to decide on the mandate and composition of the delegations that negotiate with the European employers' organisations.

EuroCOP are the only police representative body embedded in this European Organisation in its own right. Nigel Dennis, Head of Office represents EuroCOP at the Executive meetings of this organisation.



Standout Speech:

“It is high time that work pays. And work must pay for everyone: for men and women alike. There is not a single argument why – for the same type of work – a woman should get paid less than a man. Not a single argument, not a single one. So, that is why we now have a Directive on pay transparency. It's a basic principle of equality, it's finally cast into law. Equal work deserves equal pay.”

-Ursula von der Leyen,  
European Commission President



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## ETUC 15th Congress Report by President Jonne Rinne and Head of Office Nigel Dennis

The 15th Congress of the European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) took place recently in Berlin, Germany, and EuroCOP President Jonne Rinne and Head of Office Nigel Dennis attended representing our Member Organisations who between them have a membership of 230 000.

About 600 national trade union delegates including the General Secretaries and/or Presidents of some 93 national trade union organisations from 41 European countries, 10 European sectoral trade union federations (EuroCOP are part of this group commonly known and described as ETUF's) and special guests from Europe and beyond took part in this event.

Together with other Trade Union leaders we debated our challenges, priorities and potential solutions to ensure a Fair Deal for Workers. We collectively exchanged views on trade union renewal, on the future of work, on a new economic model for the people and the planet, on the future of Europe and on a stronger ETUC.

This particular Congress also celebrated 50 years of the European Trade Union Confederation: 50 years fighting for working people. As the only Police Representative Body who are members of the ETUC, it was a privilege not only to attend but most importantly it allowed us to listen, engage and be part of this special occasion.

It was important to note that some top level policy makers in Germany and Europe attended, including; Olaf Scholz, German Federal Chancellor, Ursula von der Leyen, President of the European Commission, Hubertus Heil, Federal Minister of Labour and Social Affairs of Germany, Nicolas Schmit, European Commissioner for Jobs and Social Rights.

Some of the standout moments for us were;

- Congress achieving gender balance in its attendance this something EuroCOP can strive for.
- That the Youth section of the ETUC has achieved the quota of delegates to Congress

That Congress unanimously provided support to Ukraine and its people and their Trade Unions.

Overall it was a successful week where we also took the opportunity at the invitation of the the President of the Gewerkschaft de Polizei ( GdP) Jochen Kopelke to meet and exchange views and opportunities for Police Trade Unions in Europe and the role we collectively undertake for the benefit of our membership.



Jonne Rinne, EuroCOP President meeting the President of the Finnish Nurses T.U Millariikka Rutlandönen



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