

## PERC Newsletter, January/February 2010

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**Evgeny Sidorov passed away**

“We were shocked and saddened to learn of the sudden death of Evgeny Sidorov who has been an important influence on the development of PERC. His wise advice and good comradeship will be sorely missed by us all. Our deepest sympathy and condolences are extended to the FNPR and all his family and friends”

John Monks, PERC Secretary General

***New PERC member organization: the CNSM***



- 1. The ITUC Executive Bureau meeting on its 7<sup>th</sup> meeting in Brussels has decided to affiliate the National Confederation of Trade Unions of Moldova (CNSM).*

*2. PERC activities*

***Global Financial And Economic Crisis: The Role of International Monetary Fund, Government***

At the time of global financial and economic crisis many countries are facing with the unpopular measures of their governments, a number of them following the IMF developed policies in their

<p><b>Measures, Trade Union Responses</b>  <b>Vienne, 11-15 January, 2010</b></p> <p><a href="http://perc.ituc-csi.org/spip.php?article358">http://perc.ituc-csi.org/spip.php?article358</a></p>	<p>countries. Trade unions were interested to learn more about the IMF conditions with regard to the loans and agreements that their governments are concluding. Therefore, the IMF in cooperation with ITUC organized a five-day seminar in Vienna Joint Institute, 10-15 January 2010 for the trade union representatives from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Hungary, Latvia, Romania, Serbia and Ukraine. Enclosed you may find a short presentation on this seminar.</p>
<p><b>The second meeting of the PERC Youth Committee, 22 January</b></p> 	<p>The second meeting of the PERC Youth Committee took place in Brussels, 22 January 2010. The meeting concentrated on the analysis of the experiences of trade union actions in the framework of the World Day for Decent Work and other activities of the PERC Youth, on discussing the communication and campaigning means for trade union youth, agreed on working plan in 2010.</p> <p>The Youth Committee positively assessed the actions of the European Youth linked with the WDDW, particularly highlighting visibility and success of the creative and innovative approaches practiced in Denmark, Hungary, Croatia, Russia and some other countries. The members of the Committee expressed its readiness to further build on the experience in the WDDW and other frameworks.</p> <p>The Committee was introduced to the specific initiatives the international trade union movement is devoting to the youth and youth employment: the ETUC is putting youth employment as the outmost priority for actions in 2010, the ITUC is launching youth campaign and also is targeting young women in its regular women's campaigns.</p> <p>The meeting also discussed a couple of amendments to the terms of reference as it was requested by the Youth conference, and developed proposal to the PERC work plan that would be considered by the next meeting of the PERC Executive Committee. Special attention was devoted to the coming ITUC Congress and the ways to achieve the target of 10% of young delegates that had been set up by the ITUC General Council.</p>
<p><b>The conference “The challenge of informal economy in Europe”</b>  <b>Budapest, 10-11 February, 2010</b></p> <p><a href="http://perc.ituc-csi.org/spip.php?article362">http://perc.ituc-csi.org/spip.php?article362</a></p>	<p>The PERC has organised a conference “Challenge of informal economy in Europe” that assessed the experiences of the PERC-FNV “Promotion of rights and representation of workers in informal economy” project. The Friedrich Ebert Stiftung office in Bratislava has co-funded the activity.</p> <p>The conference was structured in the four main sessions: governmental policies to reduce informal economy, social dialog and trade union strategies to address the informal economy challenge, outreaching and organizing workers: changes in union strategies and structures and interests of and services to special groups of workers: domestic, self-employed, migrants etc.</p> <p>The conference agreed that the project marked out that the trade union movement can further develop its potential by promoting freedom of association for all, by organising labourers working in informal set ups (self-employed, domestic, teleworkers, licensed professionals etc.), while the main</p>

	<p>challenge and the immediate threat to the unionism - the existence and the acceptance of shadow economy - is still to be tackled. This threat includes, first of all, wages in envelopes and under-table payments, which both workers and employers are often happy to agree upon, return payments to individuals, who implement purchase of goods or services for their organisations, as part of the price paid, non-transparent or easy to bypass governmental procurement systems, unseen financial and internet transactions etc. These operations are a threat to a sustainable economy the unions are contributing to.</p> <p>The participants of the conference called upon the PERC to build upon the lessons learnt from the project and to launch a systemic priority programme action to diagnose and to tackle the persistent shadow economy threats.</p>
<p><b><i>The first issue of the PERC HTUR network bulletin</i></b></p> <p><a href="http://perc.ituc-csi.org/spip.php?article361">http://perc.ituc-csi.org/spip.php?article361</a></p>	<p>The PERC Human and Trade Union Rights Network, which was founded in September 2009 during the PERC Summer school, has released its first bulletin. The issues covers activities implemented so far and introduces the tentative plan</p>
<p><b><i>Workshop in Madrid: trade unions and NGOs against trafficking for forced labour</i></b></p> 	<p>The 3rd sub-regional workshop in the framework of a two-year joint initiative of the International Trade Union Confederation/Pan-European Regional Council (ITUC-PERC) and Anti-Slavery International against trafficking for labour exploitation in Europe, supported by the European Commission took place that in Madrid, Spain, on 1-3 February 2010. The initiative is intended to bring together NGOs and trade unions across Europe, to raise awareness, to share good practice, to foster communication and development of an integrated strategy for workplace action on trafficking and the protection of trafficked people.</p> <p>The seminar has focused on exchanging experiences in reducing forced labour and anti-trafficking actions, strengthening networks between trade unions and NGOs, looking at development of common action plans. The workshop provided an opportunity to brainstorm potential implications of the world economic crisis on trends of labour migration in the region.</p> <p>It was decided to start bilateral cooperation between Baltic and Spanish Trade unions on migrant workers protection and organising.</p>
	<p><b><i>Upcoming events:</i></b></p>
<p><b><i>SEE Economists network meeting</i></b></p>	<p>8 and 9 April, Sarajevo</p>

<b><i>HTUR meeting NIS</i></b>	20 and 21 April. Kishinev
<b><i>Anti-discrimination sub-regional training</i></b>	22 to 24 April, Cracow
<b><i>ETUC Youth conference</i></b>	23 April 2010 to 24 April , Madrid
	<b><i>You may be interested</i></b>
	The European Commission adopted its proposal for the Europe 2020 Strategy, which you can consult through the site <a href="http://ec.europa.eu/eu2020">http://ec.europa.eu/eu2020</a> , as well as a document presenting a more detailed overview of the key ideas presented by the different groups of stakeholders in response to the consultation.
	The ISCOS-Cisl has completed a project on trade union training in Turkey in the bank and commerce sectors. The activities have been implemented in 5 regions of Turkey, in partnership with Turkish Sector Federations as well as European trade union organizations. The project was co-financed by the European Commission. The report is available here: <a href="http://perc.ituc-csi.org/spip.php?article349">http://perc.ituc-csi.org/spip.php?article349</a>
<b><i>IMF loan update</i></b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Russian Hotel Investments BV</li> <li>2. KG EOS Holding GmbH &amp; Co - Eastern Europe Region</li> <li>3. Newko Balkan (manufacturing) - Kosovo</li> <li>4. Rabitabank - Azerbaijan</li> <li>5. Vojvodjanska Banka - Udruzena Banka (Serbia)</li> <li>6. Medicover II (hospital) - Romania</li> </ol>
<b><i>Baltic Sea Labour Network</i></b> 	Conference “Working Together for Sustainable Labor Markets” of the Baltic Sea Labor Network on 11 May 2011 in Vilnius.