

**2ND EUROPEAN CONFERENCE  
OF THE UIS OF RETIREES AND RETIREES OF THE WFTU.**

**- APPROVED DOCUMENT –**

We will soon be celebrating the 2nd UIS European Pensioners' and Pensioners' Conference (PP and JJ), following the one held at the “Rantzausminde Efterskole” school, in the town of SVENDBORG, Denmark, on the 20 of July 2016 and in which 34 leaders of organizations of pensioners and pensioners from 14 countries took part. This meant the embryonic creation of our European organization which facilitated the consolidation and development of the PeR TUI in Europe, albeit irregularly and with enormous organizational difficulties, which we will try to correct during this 2nd Conference.

From the 1st Conference to this 2nd, the most decisive element at the trade union and political level was the offensive launched by the European oligarchy at all levels and in all its forms towards the privatization of public pensions.

For this, he has relied on the classic and powerful media of disinformation and lies, with legislation according to his interests, with coercion of all kinds and what is worse with the collaborationism of trade unions and social democratic parties -liberals of the ETUC.

To name them all is a difficult task, because one characteristic that marks them all is their collaboration in each of the social pacts and compromises which result in the permanent aggression against the working class of which pensioners and retirees are an indissoluble and permanent part. It must be said loud and clear, that Europe is today a bastion of social democracy in all its colors and in all its forms. His alternation with the conservative and more right-wing parties (understood on the right as supporters of capitalism) did not change anything. As our Greek comrades said at their recent 23rd Congress, **GOVERNMENTS CHANGE BUT THEY DO THE SAME POLICY.** They do what the multinationals that direct the policy of the European Union command.

Therefore, in recent times, the situation of the PPyJJ has worsened as a whole in each of the European countries as a result of the application of oligarchic policies, budget cuts and the application of anti-social measures derived of COVID 19, who perfectly came to this EU oligarchy to carry out social and labor reforms against the working class in general and against pensioners in particular.

As the best way to put it is to do it, they have already taken the first steps in the already known direction of the strategic privatization of public pensions. From public opinion and massive demands from all over Europe for the defense and improvement of public pensions, hypocritically made by social democracy using lies in election promises, it has moved to a strategy of not talk about it directly at all, although they already insinuate

in a manipulative way, that the huge indebtedness of the states motivated by the grandiose loans of the European Central Bank and its necessary repayment intended to save the capitalist companies by one And a thousand formulas, from direct to banks, via indirect tax havens, will have social costs.

Moreover, the EU itself has demanded, and will insist on it, further cuts in public spending, especially on the issue of public pensions (thereby helping the big private banks to make huge profits, and applying the PePP, an European directive approved on 4-4-19, to implement what was ordered by the International Monetary Fund.

This self-serving and manipulative absence of public information about pensions right now and the reiteration ad nauseam in the huge economic crisis we are in, and the informational-distorting hammering on the obligation to return the money lent by the European institutions make us think, without a doubt, that pensions, social services, health and everything related to rights, if we understand that they have done so, pensioners and pensioners in Europe will be subject to freezes, reductions and deletions. We have no doubt about that. Nothing or very little is said about the thousands of dead, pensioners and pensioners, who succumbed in the most undignified conditions and circumstances, following the privatization of centers for the elderly in their great majority, of the understaffed, terrible health care, in dire personal circumstances, expensive, inhumane and overcrowded.

The dead over age of 65 populate cemeteries and graves in Europe the way the rest will be nothing to said and so one can only expect European pensioners and pensioners to be the sector the most affected in all aspects by the coronavirus and the derived “drugs” applied to it.

Confronted with this and other similar and derivative situations that our UIS should do in Europe? The Permanent denunciation of the EU and the governments that implement their pension policies must be the north in which we operate and, necessarily, complement the quantitative and qualitative increase in our organizational influence. In this last sense we cannot continue with the organizational weakness in Europe, it is true that social democracy (democracy - trade union and political liberal) occupies important spaces and that therefore we are advancing very slowly, ignoring the Greek comrades of PAME who have a powerful organization established in all their regions and for 73 years. All the other European organizations with which we have contact are very recent and, with the exception of that of Cyprus (created by the PEO trade union), plus those of the Spanish State (partly also of the Portuguese State), are numerically weak and also very fragmented.

However, and despite these serious problems, progress has been made in coordination, improving contacts with organizations and collectives in each country, which has resulted in the celebration of more and better events at the international level, increasing the public presence of the UIS of the PP and the JJ and the WFTU in Europe.

This is why updating our demands as global and European retirees, disseminating them widely and fighting for their realization is fundamental in our work as UIS of the European PP and JJ. remembering our demands, both in general and in particular, is an important task and can be summed up concretely by:

- Fight against capitalism (in its imperialist phase, which in the case of Europe acts in Africa), the EU and NATO as instruments and organizations against workers and pensioners.
- Total rejection and fight against all types of private pensions. Public money and gains from collective bargaining for public pensions.
- Each of the public pension systems must be included and guaranteed (protected) in the Constitutions and in case of deficit in the general budgets of European countries
- The maximum retirement age must return to 60 years and must be 50 years for workers in high-risk occupations.
- Early retirement for all workers who have worked 30 years but have not been able to contribute.
- All workers will have a minimum pension to be determined in each country, but never lower than the inter-professional minimum salary of each country.
- Automatic revaluation of pensions based on the real CPI which includes the elements of a dignified life.
- Disappearance of the gender difference in the amount to be charged.

- Disappearance of the gender difference in the amount to be invoiced.
- As a mandatory complement to the collection of pensions a dependency law will be determined in which the right to all types of personal assistance, of a public and free nature, including quality public residences, will be collected
- Basic supplies Guaranty that allow a dignified life (energy, water, transport).
- Full and effective human rights: right to life, to a dignified death, to freedom, to work, to health, to housing, to culture, etc...

The Community guideline based on pensions on life expectancy is not applied. Workers have the right, in the age of the take-off of technologies, to live longer, with decent pensions, with health assistant, to live free without the nightmare of exploitation and repression by employers and to rest and dispose of their time as they wish. The increase in productivity generated by new technologies (including robots) should make it possible to work fewer hours each week and fewer years. Only in this way will we prevent exploitative entrepreneurs from being the only ones to benefit from the progress of humanity.

- The financing of social security must be the State responsibility and employers, in particular big capital, which is the one which, in capitalism, contributes the least to the collection of taxes

- Special and sufficient funds have to be available for research on serious diseases such as cancer, heart problems, AIDS, COVID-19 and other diseases that preferentially affect the PeR.
- Ensure proper funding of the WHO (World Health Organization).
- Vaccines for everyone and all the modern therapies that exist on the market, free of charge.
- Unification and development of all levels of health (prevention, first degree, second and third degree).
- Homes for the elderly, places for the severely disabled, for the mentally ill, exclusively public and free with adequate staff and equipment.
- All workers and the unemployed must benefit from Social Security. The Social Security system should not be considerable as a cost. Retirement years must be reduced and even more so for women. The Capitalist State, which does not employ unemployed people, must pay its social security contributions, including pensions.

**To satisfy these just requirements there is more than enough money and resources created by humanity in this 21st century, it is enough to cancel the military expenditure caused by the genocidal and imperialist NATO, and to end to exploitative, inhumane and unsupported capitalism which, continues to exist every year, increases the concentration of wealth in a few (1% of the richest of humans own 45% of the wealth, while 90% of The poor own only**

**20% the 7 richest people raise more money than the poorest 3.5 billion people AND, THIS IS UNACCEPTABLE.**

To conclude the document, it is worth recalling the appeal of the WFTU Presidential Council dated October 27, 2020 to all WFTU unions to support with all their might the UIS of the PP and the JJ and that in the speech of his spokesman, comrade Mavrikos said: “With this letter, we want to express the need the contribution of the trade union movement in coordination and joint action with the trade union movement pensioners and pensioners in each country.

**Down with capitalism**

**Long live for the struggle of European pensioners and pensioners  
for their rights!!**

**Long live for the struggle of the working class for its interests!!**

**Long live for Socialism!!**

3 Documents are attached, already approved by the WFTU and our UIS leadership, to serve as a complement to the previous document, which is



the one that will be discussed in the previous Process of the Second Conference of our UIS in Europe:

**1 Letter from Mr. George Mavrikos (WFTU General Secretary), Mr. Dimos Koumbouris (PeR UIS President) and Quim Boix (Per UIS General Secretary).**

**2- Signed Document by more than 500 organizations from 50 countries on 5 continents.**

**3- Document that was presented at the 18th Congress of the WFTU.**