



27 of April 2021, Brussels

Declaration on Healthy and Safe Workplaces

Together we state our continual commitment to policy and practices for healthy and safe workplaces. Work should promote employee safety, growth, and goal attainment. Results are achieved when trade unions and employers cooperate on common objectives on occupational health and safety towards safer workplaces and where risks of occupational diseases and accidents are addressed.

The human right to “safe and healthy working conditions” is recognized in the United Nations Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights. The collective and shared commitment on occupational health and safety is also strongly reverberated in the UN Sustainable Development Goals 2030.

Over the years since the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work in 1998, safety and health have become even more elemental for both trade unions and employers. Dealing with the health and safety risks of the COVID-19 pandemic is the most recent example.

We are committed to support the recognition of healthy and safe workplaces as a fundamental right by the International Labour Organization (ILO). A global consensus for such a change will encourage the application of good occupational health and safety standards and discourage any actions seeking competitive advantage based on substandard conditions and practices.

Healthy and safe workplaces are vital.

Sampsa AUVINEN
Chairman of CEI-Bois

Johan Lindholm
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European Federation
of Building
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About the signatories:

The [European Federation of Building and Woodworkers \(EFBWW\)](#) is the European Trade Union Federation grouping 76 national free trade unions from 34 countries with members in the building, building materials, woodworking, forestry and allied industries and trades.

The [European Confederation of Woodworking Industries](#) represents 22 European and National organisations from 16 countries and is the body backing the interests of the whole industrial European wood sector: more than 180,000 companies generating an annual turnover of 152 billion euros and employing 1 million workers in the EU.