



YOUNG EUROPEAN SOCIALISTS

YES

**Young European Socialists asbl**

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**YES Bureau meeting  
hosted by LSDYU Lithuania  
Vilnius, Lithuania, 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> October 2013**

**YES SUPPORTS THE APPEAL FOR A EUROPEAN TAX PACT**

Economic policy in Europe is currently dominated by cuts to public spending and falls in wages, with dramatic consequences in particular in Southern Europe. Bringing an end to austerity policies is now urgently needed. In their place, we need policies to rectify the gross inequalities in the distribution of social wealth. This includes taxes with a strong redistributive effect – reversing the recent direction of travel:

- Taxes on high profits
- Taxes on large holdings of wealth and inheritances.
- Taxes on unearned incomes from capital and on very high incomes.

Tax rates in all these areas should be raised substantially and scope for tax avoidance and evasion blocked. This will release large amounts of money from predatory financial markets and allow it to be moved into socially useful fields – making it possible to finance a social and ecological Europe. At the same time, we can ensure that the economy is more resistant to the speculative pressures of financial markets in the future. In order to achieve this, the following organisations have joined together to launch an appeal for a European Tax Pact (see text below): ver.di Deutschland, the German public sector union / Attac Deutschland, Attac Schweiz / Gewerkschaft Unia Schweiz, the Swiss trade union / Denknetz Schweiz / Marie Jahoda/Otto Bauer Institute Austria / GPA-djp (Gewerkschaft der Privatangestellten, Druck, Journalismus, Papier), Austrian white-collar, print and journalist's trade union. Beginning in September 2013, we are appealing to NGOs, trade unions, political parties and similar bodies in every European country with the aim of uniting as many organisations as possible behind the appeal. The next step will be to ensure that the Tax Pact is put on the European political agenda. The full text of the appeal can be found on [http:// http://steuerpakt.org/?page\\_id=99](http://http://steuerpakt.org/?page_id=99).

Young European Socialists (YES) supports this appeal and calls upon its member organisations to do the same by contacting [steuerpakt@denknetz-online.ch](mailto:steuerpakt@denknetz-online.ch).

*Done at Vilnius, Lithuania, on 19<sup>th</sup> October 2013.  
Thomas Maes, Secretary General.*