

Brussels, 14 April 2005

SOCIAL DIALOGUE STRENGTHENED BY THE CONSTITUTION

Today, at a conference celebrating the 20th anniversary of the European social dialogue, John Monks, General Secretary of ETUC, and Philippe de Buck, Secretary General of UNICE, expressed their support for the Constitutional Treaty and to its ratification throughout Europe.

They praised in particular Article I-48 which recognises the role of the social partners at European level, taking into account the diversity of national industrial relations and the autonomy of the social dialogue respectively.

After twenty years of existence, the European social dialogue has proved its value.

Companies and workers need a strong European Union capable of taking decisions to ensure their future.

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