



JUST TRANSITION EUROPEAN PROJECT
General objectives and political framework
KICK OFF meeting 26th April 2021
Francesco Lauria Centro Studi Cisl



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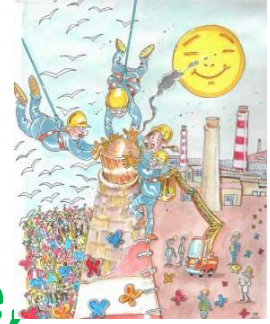


Just transition (VS 2021/0055)

*Supporting trade unions
in taking steps towards
a sustainable future
at company/sectoral level
through social dialogue*



Just transition Goals (VS 2021/0055)



- The main goal of this project is to supply **knowledge, tools and working methods to local-level and/or company-level trade unionists** in order to help them take steps towards a just transition to a carbon neutral and circular future for their production plants or areas.
- The recovery during the **Covid-19 pandemic** will require a complex and monumental effort. There will be forces that will push towards **deregulation** and a swift return to **business as usual**, which could damage workers' rights and the long term viability of their employment. It is therefore vital that a just transition in line with the **European Green Deal** is at the heart of recovery.

Just transition Main actions (VS 2021/0055)

- There is a need for greater awareness among workers and their representatives to give them the ability to **propose and stimulate proactive management** of the future in the companies or production areas where they work and act.

- The project partner will identify 3-4 figures in their organisation in order to train them as **just-transition counsellors**.

A sort of "coach" for trade unionists to provide them the know-how and methodologies to generate, through **social dialogue**, concrete actions towards a just transition both in their company and in a wider area.

- The counsellors will support trade unionists in all aspects, in **close collaboration with the sectoral federations**, taking into account their actual knowledge needs, both from a technical point of view and by suggesting specific methodologies.

- This support will continue after the end of the project, creating an **helpdesk at a central level**.

Just transition AIMS...

- to “**develop employee involvement** in undertakings - meaning any mechanism, including information, consultation and participation, through which employees' representatives may exercise an influence on decisions to be taken within the company in particular by raising awareness and contributing to the application of EU law and policies”
- to enable “**social partners and the social actors at company level** to familiarize themselves with EU law and policies in the area of employee involvement, to exercise their rights and their duties to this regard”.

The **main objective of this project** is to supply knowledge, tools and working methods to local-level and/or company-level trade unionists in order to support them in managing information and consultation processes regarding a **just transition** towards a carbon neutral and circular future for their production plants or production areas. According to **European Green Deal**; in coherence with the Agenda 2030 promoted by United Nations, this project aims “to support a new growth strategy for the EU”.

It supports “the transition of the EU to a fair and prosperous society that responds to the challenges posed by **climate change and environmental degradation**, improving the quality of life of current and future generations”.

Just transition AIMS... (2)

Furthermore, this project aims to:

- **develop expertise and exchange of informations** regarding the above-mentioned just transition at company, or industrial area level, taking into account the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and the risks and opportunities involved with the economic recovery process;
- **promote transnational cooperation between social partners** to enhance worker involvement in actions within companies to implement the European Green Deal
- involve trade unionists on a local or company level in social dialogue regarding the issue of just transition;
- **improve knowledge on effective actions and plans** that can help companies and industrial zones evolve towards a sustainable economy while improving or maintaining working conditions;
- **disseminate the project results** and maximise their impact;
- **contribute to strengthening social dialogue** at local and company level;
- **support the adaptation of trade unions to changes** in employment and work-related challenges in the Covid-19 era;
- **strengthen synergies and exchanges** between European social partners, academia and research centres.

A particular attention will be paid to **the involvement of vulnerable employees.**



Climate Change

is here and now

JUST TRANSITION:

a key concept for trade unions

(Etuc)

What is the European Green Deal?

The **European Green Deal** is the EU roadmap to make the European economy sustainable. The EU wants to achieve the goal by transforming climate issues and environmental challenges into opportunities in all policy areas and making the transition fair and inclusive for all.

Actions

The European Green Deal includes an action plan aimed at:

- promote the efficient use of resources by moving to a clean / circular economy
- restore biodiversity and reduce pollution
- The plan outlines the necessary investments and funding tools available and explains how to ensure a just and inclusive transition.
- The EU aims to achieve climate neutrality in 2050.

To achieve this goal, it is necessary the action of **all sectors of the economy**:

- investing in environmentally friendly technologies
- support industry in innovation
- introduce cleaner, cheaper and healthier forms of private and public transport
- decarbonise the energy sector
- ensure greater energy efficiency of buildings
- collaborate with international partners to improve global environmental standards.

European Green New Deal Timeline (first part)

08 July 2020

Adoption of the [EU strategies for energy system integration and hydrogen](#) to pave the way towards a fully decarbonised, more efficient and interconnected energy sector

20 May 2020

Presentation of the [EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030](#) to protect the fragile natural resources on our planet

Presentation of the '[Farm to fork strategy](#)' to make food systems more sustainable

11 March 2020

Proposal of a [Circular Economy Action Plan](#) focusing on sustainable resource use

10 March 2020

Adoption of the [European Industrial Strategy](#), a plan for a future-ready economy

4 March 2020

Proposal for a [European climate law](#) to ensure a climate neutral European Union by 2050

Public consultation (open until 17 June 2020) on the [European Climate Pact](#) bringing together regions, local communities, civil society, businesses and schools

14 January 2020

Presentation of the [European Green Deal Investment Plan](#) and the [Just Transition Mechanism](#)

11 December 2019

Presentation of the [European Green Deal](#)

European Green New Deal Timeline (second part)

25 March 2021

[Organic Action Plan](#)

18 January 2021

[New European Bauhaus](#)

10 December 2020

[European Battery Alliance](#)

9 December 2020

[European Climate Pact](#)

19 November 2020

[Offshore renewable energy](#)

14 October 2020

[Renovation wave](#)

[Methane Strategy](#)

[Chemicals strategy for sustainability](#)

17 September 2020

Presentation of the [2030 Climate Target Plan](#)

Why We need a...
JUST
TRANSITION ?
(Etuc)

WHY WE NEED A JUST TRANSITION? (Etuc)

- **Just transition** is key to have public support and sufficient acceptance of climate policies >< climate denial /
- **NIMBY**
- In a context of **rising inequalities**, increased by Covid Pandemic, strong need for social policies, solidarity and more attention to vulnerable regions and communities >< far right / populism

WHAT do we

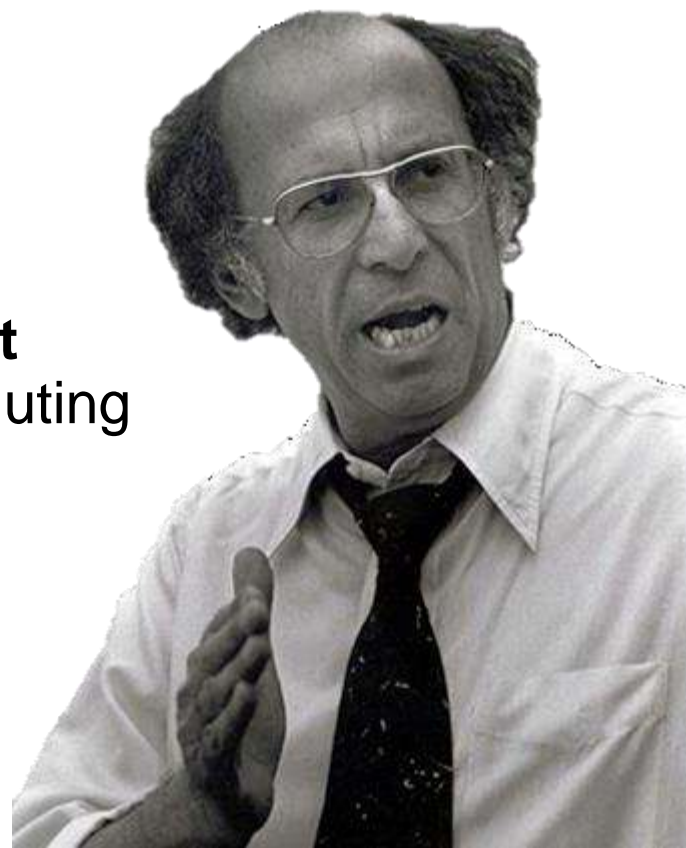
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JUST

TRANSITION ?

A brief history of the concept of just transition... (Felix Mailleux, Etuc)

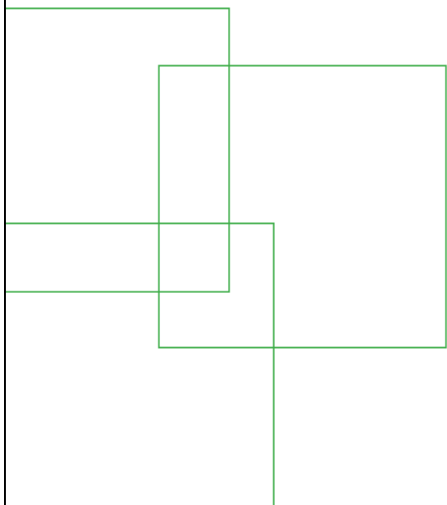
- **Tony Mazzocchi**, US trade union leader in Oil, Chemical, and Atomic sector.
- Concept emerges in 1970s in the **context of nuclear disarmament**. Idea to protect workers from nuclear sector while advocating for phase out of nuclear weapons.
- In 1990s **concept revisited in the context of climate change**. Protect workers of polluting industries while advocating for phase out.
- Later adopted by international trade union organizations, acted in **ILO guidelines** and **Paris Agreement** in 2015.





International
Labour
Organization

**Guidelines for a just transition
towards environmentally sustainable economies and
societies for all**



**International
Labour
Organization**

Just Transition – What it means for Trade Unions?(F. Mailleux-Etuc)

Just

Transition must be just

- In terms of **output** (reduce inequalities)
- In terms of **process** (inclusive)
- In terms of **financing** (fiscal justice and solidarity)

Transition

There are no jobs on a dead planet :

- In line with **Paris Agreement**
- Status quo is no solution
- Objective to achieve a **carbon neutral** and **circular economy**.

What about Cisl?

First European Project on this topic 2011-2013

European Trade Unionists Guide for a sustainable development. Contents:

- Culture and new values of sustainable development.
- The European reference framework
- Green bargaining for the low carbon economy: a bottom-up way
- The trade unionist for sustainable development in the workplace
- The sustainable development trade unionist, local institutions and society
- Jobs and professional skills in a Just Transition
- The green trade unionist and international action

Second European Project leaded by Cisl 2014-2016

**Industrial relations for a green economy.
EUROPE 2020: INNOVATIVE BARGAINING
PROCESSES FOR A SUSTAINABLE GROWTH AND
QUALITY EMPLOYMENT (VS/2014/0405)**

Objectives:

starting from previous experience, develop case studies to define guidelines for trade union action and for the training of trade unionists and members on "green" issues

Trade union and socio- ecological contract

Decentralised training

Madrid • Sofia • Florence • Rome



etui.education



Cisl partner of the first decentralized course on green competences – 7-9 October 2020

Further fundamental issues for unions, companies and territories

- foster the Just Transition and guarantee a "bridge" between **old and new professions and professional roles** even in traditional sectors (to be "revived" or "greening") and in those with a strong environmental impact
- identify the **skills and qualifications** that build a bridge between **different sectors and territories**