The ETUC strategy for influencing the European semester
The European Semester explained
European Semester Cycles

1. Budgetary Cycle

The PREVENTIVE ARM keeps governments on track (towards their objectives) of the Stability and Growth Pact

15 April (MTO)

15 October
Publication of the DBP (Draft Budgetary Plan)
by 30 November
Commission's opinion on the DBPs

Council opinion on the draft budgetary plans and the EA budgetary situation and prospects

31 December
Adoption of national budgets

2. Broad economic guidelines cycle

22 November

December
Bilateral Meetings with MS, Councils and European Council. AGS endorsed.

Beginning of March
European Council sets economic priorities based on AGS

3. Country Specific Recommendations Cycle

October-December
Consultation with MS and stakeholders on possible contents of the Country Reports

End February
Country Reports

15 April
National Plans: including National Reform Programmes (NRP)/Stability & Convergence Programmes (SGP, i.e. medium-term fiscal objectives)

May
Publication draft CSR

June
European Council gives political support

July
Council adopts CSR
Questions for discussion in the working groups

1) Which are the challenges for trade unions and workers stemming from the European semester?

2) Which are the opportunities?

3) Find 3 priorities or policy areas that trade unions should address within the semester. Explain why and how.
The ETUC strategy explained
Where does the ETUC strategy intervene?

**Budgetary Cycle**

The ETUC strategy doesn’t work on this cycle, yet!

**Broad economic (and social!) guidelines**

**The Autumn package**
Including:
- Annual Growth Survey
- Joint Employment Report,
- EuroArea fiscal recommendation.

**Country Specific Recommendations Cycle**

**Country Reports**
Analyses of national situations (challenges and reform priorities) in economic, financial and social terms

**National Plans (NRP/SCP)**
Governments’ reform plans to meet the foreseen (fiscal) objectives and fix challenges identified in Country Reports

**Country Specific Recommendations**
Recommendations on how to adjust policies in order to meet the planned objectives
How does the ETUC strategy intervene?

Broad economic guidelines

AUTUMN PACKAGE:
ETUC for Growth & Social progress aims at influencing contents of the Autumn package
- Annual Growth Survey
- Joint Employment Report,
- EuroArea fiscal recommendation.

ETUC assessment of Autumn package

CSR Cycle

COUNTRY REPORTS:
ETUC Report on TU inputs for Country Reports and Early Stage Consultation
It gathers inputs from national trade unions for influencing the Country reports

ETUC assessment of Country Reports and Ex Post Consultation on Country Reports

COUNTRY SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS:
ETUC Report on TU inputs for social CSRs

Assessment of the whole semester cycle

ETUC assessment of the semester cycle

ETUC TU-INVOLVEMENT Index
Monitors the involvement of trade unions in the semester process at national level
European Trade Union Confederation

Confédération européenne des syndicats

Thanks for your attention

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