

# Online photo action

All trade unionists are asked to support the Pay Rise campaign, including by taking part in a online photo action to spread the word that 'Europe needs a pay rise'.

## How to take part?

- Download and print the 'Europe needs a pay rise' logo in your language from <http://payrise.eu/get-involved/>
- Take a photo of yourself, or your workmates, or your trade union branch, or any group of colleagues or friends with the downloaded logo
- Post the photo on your social networks using the hashtag **#OurPayRise** and/or **email** the photo to the ETUC: [photo@etuc.org](mailto:photo@etuc.org).



## How will this help?

The European Trade Union Confederation will use EVERY photo to

- Build a big online photo wall to show the support across Europe for a pay rise
- Remind EU policy-makers via Facebook about our campaign demand
- Send a message 'Europe needs a pay rise' to EU economic policy-makers on Twitter
- Present all photos to those responsible for EU economic policy

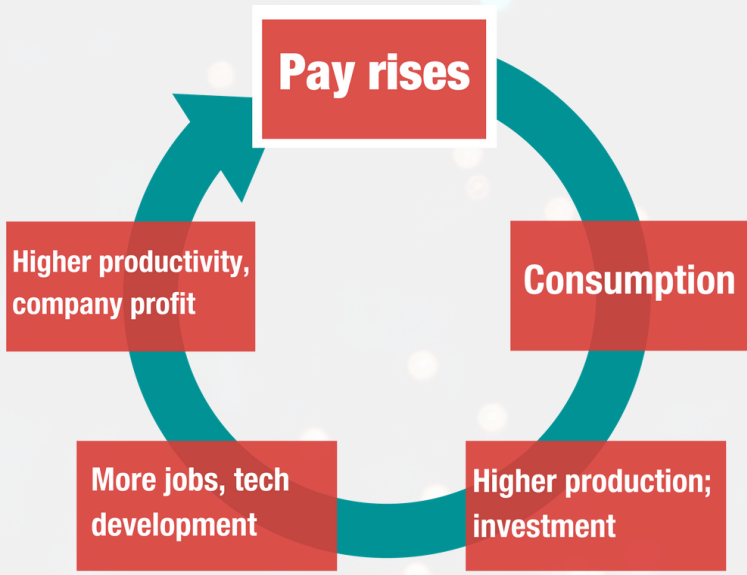




# It's time for OUR recovery

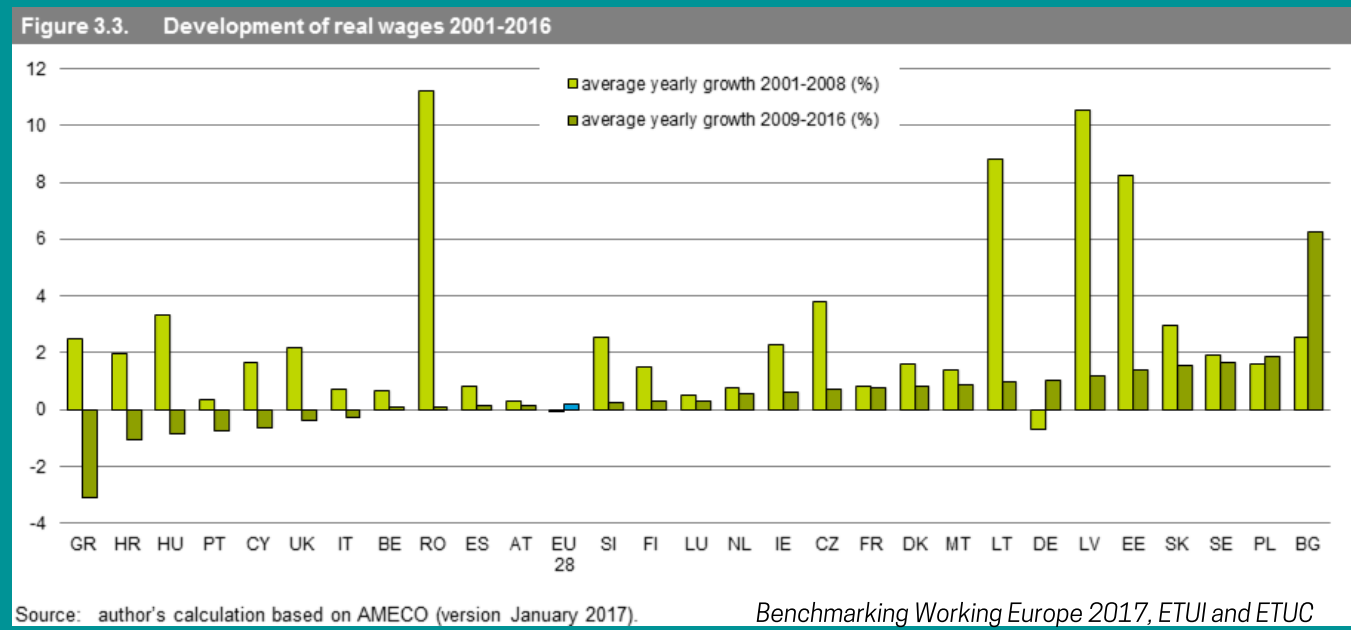
**A pay rise would be good for the economy, for business, for growth, for jobs and for workers.** Europe needs stronger economic demand to drive growth, as well as more investment.

With more money in their pockets, workers will buy goods and services that will boost business and create growth and jobs.



## The wage crisis

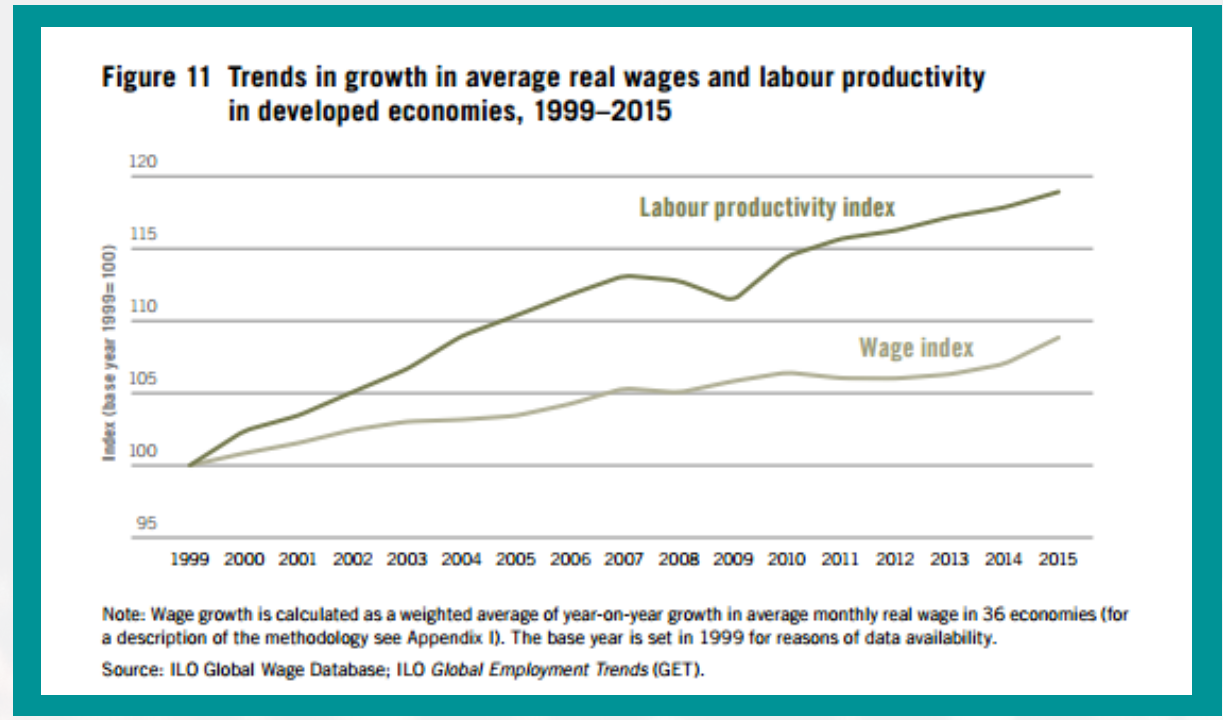
Many workers have yet to feel any improvement from Europe's slow recovery. In 2016, workers in 7 EU countries earned less in real terms than they did 8 years ago! Real wage growth was much lower 2009-2016 than in the years 2001-2008 in 18 EU countries.



There is an urgent need to **close the wage gap** between EU member states – through faster upward wage convergence. In Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia average wages are a third of the EU average. In Romania, less than one fifth! It's the same inequality in minimum wages: 7 times higher in France than in Bulgaria, 4 times higher in the UK than in the Czech Republic. The cost of living in the Czech Republic is not 1/4th of the UK's, Bulgaria's is not 1/7th of France's.

# Wages & productivity

Wages need to follow productivity say employers: but **productivity has been rising faster than wages** for more than 30 years. From 1997 productivity has increased 30%, wages by only 20%. Wages should be allowed to outstrip productivity to recover what was lost in previous years.



[www.payrise.eu](http://www.payrise.eu)  
[fb.me/ourpayrise](https://fb.me/ourpayrise)

## How to achieve a pay rise

**The best way to achieve pay rises is through collective bargaining between trade unions and employers.**

The EU needs to support collective bargaining and social dialogue systems. EU and national economic policy must support, not oppose, fair wage increases.

EU economic policy 'recommendations' must stop attacking collective bargaining, and stop treating wages only as a cost that threatens competitiveness. Wages are the engine of growth! Minimum wages should move towards the goal of a living wage and should not be less than 60% of the average wage.