



**ETUCE Statement on the European Commission's Communication:
"Delivering on the modernisation agenda for universities: Education,
research and innovation"¹**

**Adopted by the Executive Board
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In response to the European Commission's Communication: "Delivering on the modernisation agenda for universities", ETUCE refers to the Statement adopted by the Education International Pan-European Higher Education and Research Standing Committee (HERSC) in their meeting in Oslo on 26-28 September 2006 (attached).

As a member of the Peer Learning Cluster on Higher Education within the Education & Training 2010 process, ETUCE will follow closely the continuing debate on the themes identified in the Communication, including the peer learning activities between Member States on these themes. In this relation, ETUCE calls on the Commission to ensure maximum transparency in the evaluation and follow-up of the peer learning activities, and to ensure that a proper dialogue takes place with the higher education community, including its staff and students, throughout the work of the cluster. As a social partner to the European Commission, ETUCE is involved in the work at the EU level, but at national level coordinated social dialogue structures with teacher unions on EU cooperation within education must equally be ensured. In the case of Higher Education ETUCE emphasises that the dialogue should include the institutional level, with the involvement of all partners concerned. The Education Ministers committed themselves in the Joint 2006 Progress Report on Education & Training 2010 to work towards setting in place such coordination structures on the follow-up at national level. Many Member States have a strong and well-functioning social dialogue on national issues, but a coordinated dialogue on EU education cooperation is still not in place in many countries.