

## PRESS RELEASE

### ETUCE warns new European Commission: Education and Training policy at stake

The ETUCE Bureau strongly criticizes the removal of the portfolio ‘Vocational Education and Training, Erasmus+ and multilingualism’ from *Directorate-General Education, Culture, Youth and Citizenship* of the European Commission, as presented yesterday by the Commissioner designated Mr Juncker. The ETUCE Bureau, in its today’s meeting (11 September, 2014) voiced that this decision can jeopardize the achievement of the targets of the EU2020 Strategy, ET2020 Strategic Framework on education and training, [and of the Bruges Communiqué](#).

The ETUCE Bureau disagrees with Mr Juncker’s plan who does not consider Education and Training in a holistic view. ETUCE President and Vice-Presidents warn Mr Juncker on the evident risk that *Directorate-General Education, Culture, Youth and Citizenship* will lose its potential by shifting the key sectors of ‘VET, Erasmus+ and multilingualism’ from *Directorate-General Education* to *Directorate-General Employment, Social affairs, Skills and Labour mobility*.

In addition, according to ETUCE Director Martin Romer: “Teachers’ professional development has been in the focus of the ET2020 Strategic Framework, the Commission’s Communication on Rethinking Education and numerous council conclusions. Therefore, the division of education and training in between two directorate-generals will raise considerable problems on the competence of teacher education and professional development.”

Finally, the ETUCE Bureau expressed its concern on the mission letter sent by Mr Juncker to designated Commissioner for Education, Culture, Youth and Citizenship Mr Tibor Navracsics, which does not mention the key role of social partners in education and training and cooperation of *Directorate-General Education* with the social partners.