



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**



Luxembourg, 11 June 2009  
10921/09 (Presse 172)

## **Council strengthens the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund to counter crisis**

The Council adopted today<sup>1</sup> a revised regulation on the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund (EGF)<sup>2</sup>, following a first reading agreement with the European Parliament ([3654/09](#) + [10304/09 ADD1](#)). The main objective of the new regulation is to enable the EGF to make earlier interventions in favour of workers made redundant as a result of globalisation as well as to improve the attractiveness of the fund and to strengthen the solidarity in the context of the current economic and financial crisis.

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<sup>1</sup> The decision was taken, without discussion, at the Transport, Telecommunications and Energy Council meeting.

<sup>2</sup> Germany voted against, the United Kingdom and Latvia abstained.

# **P R E S S**

The new regulation includes the following provisions:

- the trigger number for interventions of the fund is reduced from 1000 to 500 redundancies;
- the period for the use of financial contributions from the fund is prolonged from 12 to 24 months;
- the scope of the EGF is temporarily broadened by providing support also to workers who have lost their jobs as a direct result of the current crisis; in addition, the co-financing rate for these cases is increased to 65%, compared to the usual co-financing rate which remains 50%; in order to benefit from this derogation, the applications must be submitted before 31 December 2011.

The new rules, which form a part of the European Economic Recovery Plan, will apply retroactively to all applications for assistance from the EGF received from 1 May 2009.

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