Union organisation of employees in atypical and precariuos work in Italy

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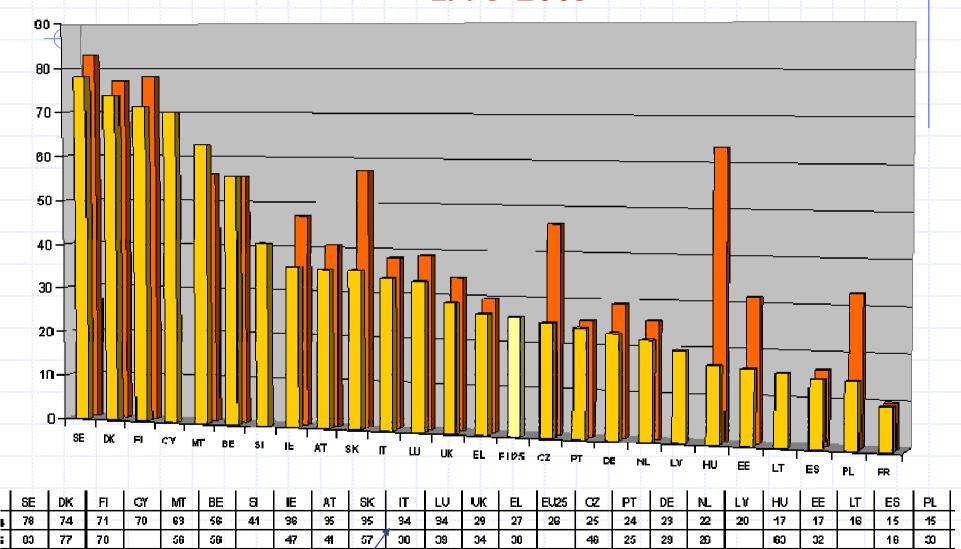
Rome; 26 September 2008







Trade Unions in Europe: 1995-2005



Trade unions membership: 1970-2006

Year	Sweden	Italy	UK	Germany	Spain	France	USA
1970	67.7	37.0	44.8	32.0		21.7	23.5
1980	78.0	49.6	50.7	34.9	12.9	18.3	19.5
1990	80.8	38.8	39.3	31.2	12.5	10.1	15.5
2000	79.1	34.9	29.7	25.0	16.1	8.1	12.8
2006	76	34	29	23 (17% in 2008)	15	10	12.3

J. Visser, Union membership statistics in 24 countries, in "Monthly Labor Review", 2006.

Number of total members of CGIL, CISL e UIL (1980-2006)

Year	CGIL	CISL	UIL	Total
1980	4.599.050	3.059.845	1.346.900	9.005.795
1990	5.150.376	3.508.391	1.148.758	10.144.525
1998	5.231.360	3.847.388	1.603.940	10.682.688
2006	5.659.942	4.346.952	1.733.375	11.731.269

- 5.964.166 51% = active workers
- 5.767.103 49% = retried workers

11.731.269 total members

The main causes of the unions density decline

- 1) The sunset of the sectors/branches where the unions settlement had been traditionally much stronger -> the private <u>tertiarization</u> of the employment
- 2) Expansion of the SMEs
- The traditional juridical partition between the <u>autonomy</u> of the selfemployees and the <u>subordination</u> of the dependent workers is now eroded by the huge increase of a <u>grey zone</u> in the middle
- 4) A deep and <u>broad cultural change</u>; de-traditionalisation of the social links; individualisation of the styles of life; the death of the old ideologies of '900; the crisis of the traditional cultures of solidarity

Italian Labour Market and Flexibility

Employment rates: 58% (EU27: 65,3%)

Employment rates women: 46% (EU27: 58,2%)

Unemployment rates: 5,9% (EU27: 7,1%)

Unemployment rates of youth: 18,6 (EU27: 15,2%)

- Part-time: 12,8% (EU25: 18%)
- Fixed-Term workers: 12,3% (EU27: 13,7%)
- Agency workers: 1,2% (EU15: 2%).
- Self-employed: 17,5%
- Quasi-subordinated: 4,3%
- Undeclared jobs: 10-15%

Italian trade unions distinguishing traits

- A pluralism of organisations which goes back to the cold war
- Substantial unity of action among CGIL, CISL and UIL;
- Confederate primacy over a network of 12-15 medium-sized industry-wide federations;
- A strong membership among retired workers; organised separately, outside the industry-wide federations;
- Important role played by horizontal and territorial structures;
- A single-channel system of workplace representation;
- A strong capacity for mobilisation, industrial action and strikes;
- A strong propensity for concertation and tripartite social pacts;
- Abstention of law in the area of industrial relations, ruled by tripartite agreements and not by the law (except that in the public sector).



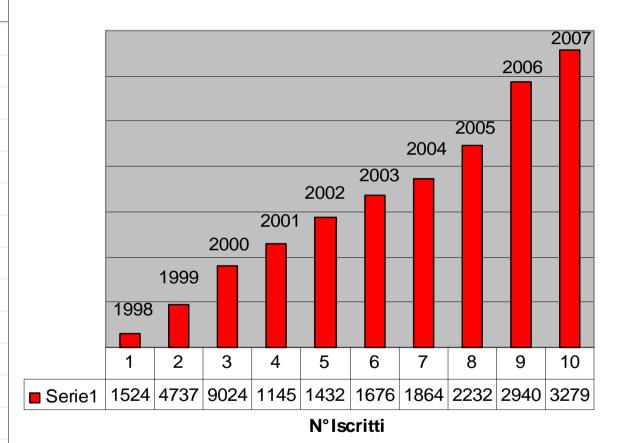
Year 2007 5.697.000 members



SECTOR	Total
FILLEA (constr.)	357.955
FIOM (metal)	359.669
FILTEA (textile)	102.120
FILCAMS (services)	345.372
FILT (transport)	147.225
FUNZ.PUBBLICA (public workers)	404.697
FISAC (bank and insurance)	87.962
FLAI (food and agricolture)	287.786
SLC (media)	95.909
NIdiL (atypical workers)	32.799
MISTE (mixed)	30.196
FLC (school and knowledge workers)	18.1596
FILCEM (chemical and energy)	162.530
SPI (retired)	2.886.628
SPI PROVVISORIE	105.020
UNEMPLOYED	17.277

NIdIL-CGIL members: 1998-2007





Servicing atypical members

- Legal and fiscal advice (also on line)
- Advice on contracts
- Advice on legislation
- Information about work opportunities
- Trade union education
- Social/Economic research about flexible work
- Vocational training (with the employers)
- Micro-credit assistance (idem)

What the atypical workers ask to the unions? Which policies?

- More job stability
- More income security

How?

- A new concept of subordination
- A new and more inclusive welfare system