



**Too Little, too slow?**  
**Social Reforms and Workers Rights**  
**in Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine**

Study Presentation & Discussion

13 November 2019  
11.00 - 13.00

Hotel Martin's Brussel EU  
Boulevard Charlemagne 80, 1000 Bruxelles

**Program**

- From 10.30      *Registration & Coffee*
- 11:00            *Introduction*  
**Nikolaos Gavalakis**,  
FES Director „Dialogue Eastern Europe“, Kyiv
- 11:10            *Workers' Rights in Georgia*  
**Eka Kardava**, NGO European Time, Tbilisi
- 11:20            *Workers' Rights in Moldova*  
**Liliana Palihovici**, former Member of Parliament, Chisinau
- 11:30            *Workers' Rights in Ukraine*  
**Kateryna Yarmolyuk-Kröck**, FES Ukraine, Kyiv
- 11:40            *Comments by*  
**Anton Leppik**, Executive Secretary PERC-ITUC, Brussels  
**Paata Beltadze**, Solidarity Center Georgia, Tbilisi
- Chaired by* **Marco Schwarz**, FES EU Office
- 12:00            *Q&A*
- 13:00            *Buffet Lunch*

### *Background Information:*

Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine have committed themselves to minimum social standards – particularly in the field of labor legislation – through their Association Agreements (AA) with the EU. For several reasons, however, the implementation in this field falls significantly short. Basically, there is no accountability as the EU does not focus on the social dimension of the AAs with regards to the employment policies in the countries. The EU's implementation assessments hardly address social issues at all. Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung brought together civil society and trade union representatives, experts and academics from Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine to discuss the most pressing issues regarding employment conditions. The results of the workshop are summarized in a comparative paper showing the lack of the implementation of the commitments of the three states in the social field. The aim of the paper is to raise awareness for the partly appalling working conditions in Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine as well as to formulate concrete policy recommendations for the three countries.