

Blair, Schroeder & Bolkestein et opt out : de la dynamite !

La position du gouvernement allemand favorable à la directive Bolkestein a été rapportée dans un article publié par le très sérieux quotidien **The Financial Times**, le **mardi 22 février**. **L'article s'intitule: "Berlin warns of further rise in jobless rate" (p. 6)**. On aimerait bien savoir ce qu'en dit la délégation SPD à Bruxelles qui, officiellement, se bat contre Bolkestein...

voici également **la position officielle du gouvernement Blair qui est très favorable à Bolkestein**, ce qui ne nous surprendra pas. **voici reproduit ce que dit le site du ministère du commerce et de l'industrie. Parmi les points "positifs" de la directive, ils citent le principe du "pays d'origine"!!!**

Ci joint **l'article du Financial Times (voir en particulier le dernier paragraphe)** et le passage du site gouvernemental. Les jeux apparaissent déjà faits dans le dos des militants socialistes et des peuples européens.

Berlin warns of further rise in jobless rate

By Bertrand Benoit in Berlin

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Financial Times

Wolfgang Clement, Germany's economics and labour minister, has warned that unemployment in Europe's largest economy would reach a new record this month after breaching the 5m mark in January. The February figure will be significantly higher, Mr Clement told the FT and FT Deutschland yesterday.

Although largely due to statistical adjustments, the steep jump in unemployment to its highest level since 1932 has put the government on the defensive and left Mr Clement politically vulnerable. Analysts have blamed unemployment for the ruling Social Democratic party's latest electoral defeat, in Schleswig-Holstein on Sunday. The SPD will now seek to form a minority government in the state after losing its absolute majority. Mr Clement admitted the jump in unemployment came as a surprise. The number of welfare recipients who officially became unemployed after Hartz IV, the latest labour market reform, came into force in January was higher than had been expected. However, echoing economists who have pointed at positive trends in the underlying figures, he said joblessness would recede during the year. German companies enjoy a degree of flexibility never seen before. I would say flexibility is higher than in most neighbouring countries. We have seen moderate wage developments thanks to sensible wage agreements. Today we are even competitive vis-a-vis a stern Europe. Many economists have hailed recent improvements in corporate competitiveness under the effect of the government's social security and labour market reforms, cost-saving deals between managers and unions, and moderate price developments at home.

These changes in labour market legislation will pay dividends for German corporates, wrote Rolf Egeti, head of European equities at ABN Amro, yesterday. The fall in German unit labour costs had not only buttressed the country's exports, Mr Clement said, but had also made offshoring - the relocation of activities to lower-cost markets - unattractive. The offshoring discussion is coming to an end in companies, he said. Some businesses have made decisions that cost workers a lot. The competitiveness gains have come at a price. But the flipside is that we have now reached a state where offshoring stops making sense. He brushed aside the results of an unpublished study by the German chambers of commerce, which, according to weekend leaks, showed business would relocate up to 150,000 jobs abroad by 2007.

Separately, Mr Clement also said the German government would support the European Commission in liberalising services in the EU despite considerable domestic opposition. He said the government had endorsed the country-of origin principle underpinning a directive drafted by the Commission a year ago, whereby businesses can offer services across the EU if they abide by the laws of their own countries. Gerhard Schroeder, chancellor, recently criticised the directive. But Mr Clement suggested a deal had been struck between opponents and supporters of the directive in the government - more safeguards for vulnerable sectors against the preservation of the country-of-origin principle. The current position of the government is that we should retain the country- oforigin principle and I assume that is what will happen, the Social Democratic party veteran said. The directive has raised opposition in the ruling Social

Democratic and Green parties and in the justice and consumer ministries. The SPD group in parliament has said the draft legislation would erode the country's high standards.

Source: The Department of Trade and Industry, United Kingdom
(<http://www.dti.gov.uk/>).

Subject: EU Directive on Services

Current Position :

The European Commission has http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/en/com/pdf/2004/com2004_0002en03.pdf published proposals to improve the free flow of services around the EU in an effort to unlock European businesses' potential, increase productivity and job creation and deliver benefits to consumers through greater competition.

The proposals, which are part of the <http://www.dti.gov.uk/ewt/reform.htm> Lisbon economic reform agenda agreed by European leaders in 2000, were described by the then Internal Market Commissioner Frits Bolkestein as "potentially the biggest boost to the Internal market since its launch in 1993"

1) What exactly is the Commission proposing?

The key elements of the Commission's proposals are : Freedom to establish a business in another Member State

* A review by all Member States of the administrative procedures they require foreign service providers to complete in order to establish on their territory i.e. that these be in line with EU law, non-discriminatory and proportionate. Also :

- création of single points of contact where providers can comply with all necessary formalities ;
- simplification of authorisation procédures to make them more transparent ;
- easy availability and provision of intelligible information.

Freedom to provide services abroad, without being established there :

Application of the principle of mutual recognition on the basis of country of origin. This would mean a business based in one Member State would be able to provide its services to customers in another Member State, where it is not established, on the basis of the regulations of its home country.

2) What does the UK Government think of this Directive ?

As a champion of the European single market, the UK strongly supports the market-opening aim of the Commission's proposals and shares its objective to see the Internal Market become a reality for services as well as goods. The Government's commitment to this objective has been reiterated in HM Treasury's February 2003 White Paper

http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/documents/international_issues/european_economic_reform_white_paper/int_eerwp_index2003.cfm

Meeting the Challenge: Economic Reform in Europe and by the Chancellor in his

http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/newsroom_and_speeches/press/2003/press_61_03.cfm CBI annual dinner speech in May. Greater market access and the ensuing competition among service providers should bring benefits to businesses and consumers alike this was the vision shared by all European leaders at Lisbon in 2000.

L'info provient de Dr Philippe Marliere
Senior Lecturer in French and European Politics
University College London
Gower Street London WC1E 6BT Great-Britain

Schroeder se rallie à la directive Bolkestein et au principe du "pays d'origine"

Non seulement Schroeder vient d'apporter son soutien à la directive Bolkestein de manière générale, mais il vient également de donner son accord à l'aspect le plus controversé de cette directive, le principe du "pays d'origine" (Cf communiqué, ci-dessous).

Avec Blair soutenant bien évidemment cette directive et le ralliement de Schroeder, la directive Bolkestein n'a aucunement du "plomb dans l'aile" à la suite du "combat des socialistes en Europe" (car ledit combat n'existe pas!). Cette directive va être ressortie en l'état des tiroirs de la Commission juste après le referendum français et adoptée sans aucun changement majeur. Cette information est totalement publique pour qui veut bien tendre un peu l'oreille (le ralliement de Schroeder ne fait d'ailleurs que confirmer le récent soutien de Barroso à Bolkestein).

On comprend que Chirac veuille mettre le vote le 8 mai pour des raisons de politique intérieure, il brade l'information, le débat européen, et force le pas, parce qu'il veut à tout prix gagner et porter un mauvais coup au mouvement social, aux droits des salariés français et européens.
GF

**Source: Centre for a Social Europe (Londres), 23.02.2005
Germany pledges support for Directive on Services**

The German Economics Minister, Wolfgang Clement, has said that Germany will support the European Commission's controversial draft Directive on Services. Campaigners had hoped that German Chancellor Gerhard Schröder's critical remarks about the Directive would kill the deregulation package off by denying it a qualified majority in Europe's Council of Ministers.

However, Mr Clement indicated that, subject to some amendments, the Directive would be acceptable. **In particular he said that that the German government would support the most controversial section: the "country of origin principle", which would allow a company set up in one country to provide a service in another according to the laws of their "home" country, not the country where the service is provided.** Mr Clement said, "The current position of the government is that we should retain the country of origin principle and **that is what will happen.**"

The announcement signals the EU's continuing determination to push through the Directive. The critical remarks from Germany and France in recent weeks are welcome, but fall far short of ending the threat of the "country of origin" principle.

En note :

Le patronat de St-Yorre s'exerce à essayer prématurément la constitution européenne en menaçant de « lock out » ses 294 salariés.

En effet, parmi tous ses articles, la constitution européenne introduit un « droit de grève » pour les deux parties, salariée et patronale... c'est-à-dire le lock out et la grève... Voilà pourquoi les patrons de Sédiver envisagent de braver les tribunaux, bientôt si elle est votée telle quelle la constitution européenne de Giscard leur donnera un droit de lock-out que le droit français n'envisage pas...

Gérard Filoche, D&S le 23/2/05

(tout comme hier une entreprise polonaise proposait d'amener des salariés polonais à 5 euros de l'heure pour faire des cueillettes en Bretagne (lire D&S n°121 et "on achève bien les inspecteurs du travail" ed JC Gawsevitch)

Tout comme des travailleurs lettons viennent à des prix lettons travailler en Suède prenant la place des salariés suédois (cf D&S n°121 et site "democratie-socialisme.org")

Tout comme des entreprises britanniques viennent en France, déjà, travailler de façon dissimulée avec des horaires britanniques... La "concurrence libre et non faussée", c'est la loi de la jungle, c'est la guerre de tous contre tous ! C'est la guerre et la xénophobie ré-introduites en Europe, par le projet de constitution libérale et ses annexes... Tout *progrès humain* ne commence que lorsqu'on régule la concurrence, lorsque les lois de la République s'imposent au marché, et non pas l'inverse.

Gérard Filoche

Vous trouverez les articles établissant que la directive Bolkestein est *fondée juridiquement* dans le texte de la constitution... Et les infos toujours inédites sur "l'opt out", et la circulaire allongeant la durée du travail maxima hebdomadaire en Europe, dont la presse française se refuse obstinément à parler depuis

le 30 décembre 2003, jour où la commission a ouvert *officiellement* le débat sur cette question... Ces directives, on les appelle "directives Dracula", car elles craignent la lumière !