



Closing Session Friday 15 October Speech Marc PISSENS, CoESS President

Ladies and gentlemen,
Dear participants,

At the closing of this fourth conference, I believe that CoESS and UNI-Europa can be proud again. When evaluating those past two days, we can look back at high participation (not only in quantity but also in quality), interesting discussions, a lot of food for thought, and, last but not least, the consecration of our joint efforts through the signing of yet an important joint declaration with UNI-Europa.

CoESS and UNI-Europa have not come so far without serious investments and continuous efforts. We will continue. We will bring the content and the principles of this joint declaration to the attention of all decision makers – both European and national -, into the concrete work of our national member federations and to the awareness of companies and workers throughout Europe.

Thanks to this conference, our European model has taken another small step forward. I trust that when you return to your company, your national administration, your trade union, your customer, you will bring with you this model. And that you not only will promote it, but that you will put it into practice in every aspect of your work. That is the only way for the model to grow and to become stronger.

As for CoESS - and as I told you already yesterday morning - we will continue doing everything that is necessary to defend, to preserve and to improve the European model. Upon it depends the future of our industry. And if our industry can work in the right conditions and regulatory framework, then the whole of Europe will be able to experience better security. CoESS specifically calls upon all European and national authorities to respect the content of our model, to use it as a basis for any action and to help us overcome the challenges it faces today.

Before the final end of this conference, I would like to say a few words of thanks:

First of all to all the speakers who took the time to participate in a very active way to this conference, and to all participants who largely contributed to its success. I must of course, as usual, also thank the European Commission for their financial support.

Secondly, to UNI-Europa, for their continuous believe in a modern, open and frank dialogue with our confederation.

Lastly, to our Spanish friends, APROSER as our member federation, and the Spanish trade unions, for their support and active investment in the preparation of the conference. Without your help (and necessary knowledge of the Spanish way of arranging things!), it would not have been possible.

I wish you all a good trip home and am looking forward to seeing you all when we continue our daily practical work.

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