

Eliminate social and employment insecurity

In each of our countries, each month, tens of thousands of men and women lose their unemployment benefits and face social and job insecurity. Given the dire nature of the crisis and the unlikelihood of a quick return to full employment, it is urgent to extend unemployment benefits and improve coaching and access to employment training.

To prevent unemployment becoming synonymous with job insecurity, poverty or deskilling of the workforce, we should take a look at Denmark's way of ensuring security and support for the unemployed. Most employees who lose their jobs can keep 90% of their income for 4 years, as long as they are actively seeking employment or following a training program.

Extending compensation for the unemployed was one of the first measures taken by President Roosevelt in 1933. It was also one of the first measures taken by Churchill when he became Prime Minister. Such a common sense measure could be adopted in France in a matter of days..

Salaried employees comprise 90% of the working population, but it is obvious that adequate compensation must also be provided for self-employed artisans or small business owners who face bankruptcy and often find themselves in even greater difficulty than the salaried unemployed.

Beyond this emergency measure, a debate should be initiated on how best to foster unification and simplification of social welfare mechanisms as a whole, in view of **creating an effective social shield** to protect those in need.

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