

PRESS RELEASE

London, UK

Wednesday, September 4th 2019

The Federation of International Employers ([FedEE](#)) writes at 10:20 am BST

Embargo until 14:00 noon BST on September 4th, 2019

EU Ignoring Rule of Law

The European Union is being regulated by false assumptions to the point of fraud.

Whilst the Federation of International Employers ([FedEE](#)) generally takes a positive stance towards the European Union and owes its existence to early funding from the European Commission it cannot stand by and let an increasing straightjacket be wrapped around EU employers.

The reasons for our concern are numerous. For instance:

- * The EU continues to introduce measures that are contrary to Art 153 (5) of its Treaty - which give it no powers to introduce measure in the field of "pay". When challenged about this MEPs and officials either do not respond at all, or give false justifications for their actions.
- * The EU continues to tolerate country laws that do not correctly implement EU Directives - especially in relation to annual holiday carryover. This is, for instance, the case in Italy.
- * The EU refuses to recognise that sectoral collective bargaining endorsed by the state - as in France - is anti-competitive (anti-trust) under EU rules and amounts to a "wage cartel". This would not be lawful in the USA.
- * The European Court of Justice continues to base its decisions on erroneous and unproven assumptions relating to working time. This includes the continued contention that the Directive is a health and safety measure when, at the time of its introduction, there was little research to back that up. In fact, the only reason it was classified as a health and safety measure was to allow the measure to be passed by a qualified majority vote instead of "unanimity". If the latter (correct) course had been taken, then it would have been opposed by the UK and never passed. So 26 years down the line the European Court of Justice is basing its decisions on a huge lie.
- * The EU is failing to recognise that the GDPR is not only proving to be toothless - in spite of much over-reaction across the EU - but is a bureaucratic mechanism that, due to the heavy-handedness of its promotion by government agencies, is reducing the competitiveness of EU-based businesses.



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According to [Robin Chater](#), Secretary-General of the Federation of International Employers ([FedEE](#)) *"It is again very ironic that one of the biggest prosecutions of a company under the GDPR was undertaken recently in Greece - even though the Greek government had not implemented the GDPR at the time and was itself being taken to the European Court of Justice for non-compliance. One of the key principles in the rule of law is that those institutions applying the law must not themselves be tainted by serious infringements of it. This applies both to co-existing governments and courts of the same state. The EU and its member states unfortunately live not only by their own privileges and double-think, but are happy to defend the indefensible."*

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What is FedEE?

The Federation of International Employers ([FedEE](#)) is a leading corporate membership organisation for multinational companies. It was founded in 1998, with financial assistance from the European Commission. Today it is an independent body with corporate members all around the globe.