

News about the Strike of the Siemens Workers in Thessaloniki- Greece - 15.11.2008

b. Meeting at the Greek Ministry of Employment and Social Solidarity

During the “ three parties meeting” between the representatives of the workers of the Siemens factory in Thessaloniki, the Siemens- management of the factory and the “Vice Minister of Work” Mrs Sofia Kalatzakou, held at the premises of the “Ministry of Employment and Social Solidarity” in Athens on Friday 14.11.2008, the Vice Minister asked Siemens to agree for the continuity of the function of the plant in Thessaloniki for further 9 months.

Furthermore Siemens shall apply for a request of interest, in order a buyer to take over the factory.

“The Government and all the involved parties as well, believe that the factory can be saved. For a long time the relationship between the employers and the employees were perfect and this modern factory was producing excellent products for the foreign markets” declared Mrs Kalatzakou just after the meeting and added:

“We are looking for a solution and expect that the company will really show a responsibility towards the society and the employees. The global financial crisis has suspended several investments. During this critical period we believe that all of us shall contribute for an easy exit form the crisis and for the social cohesion . We, the Government, are supporting the efforts of the workers for finding the best possible solution”.

Siemens was asked to give his written statement (agree or disagree) to the above mentioned request for the continuity of the function of the Ministry until 21.11.2008. To be noted that after an initiative of the workers of the factory, more than 21.500 signatures of Greek citizens, directed to the Ministry of Work are collected, asking for the withdrawal of the application of Siemens to the Ministry for the allowance of massive **discharges**.

According to the Greek law the employer must take a permission from the Government for discharges of his employees exceeding 2% of the total number of employees in each company, for every month.

Please spread this information. Your solidarity is needed!

You can also visit: <http://www.naftemporiki.gr/news/redirstory.asp?id=1591716>

(Greek Newspaper- Article in Greek)

<http://www.emf->

[fem.org/affiliated_organisations/solidarity/solidarity_with_the_workers_at_siemens_a_cross_europe](http://www.emf-fem.org/affiliated_organisations/solidarity/solidarity_with_the_workers_at_siemens_a_cross_europe)

(Above mentioned article among others related to the strike in Thessaloniki- Greece is published)

There also, you can find a video about the fight of the workers of Siemens Thessaloniki factory

Press Office of the Workers on Strike of the Siemens Plant in Thessaloniki.

For further information please contact:

Mr. Charilaos Markopoulos

Tel: +30 6937 47 15 90

e-mail: charilaos.markopoulos@siemens.com