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IV European Labour Mobility Congress
Posting of workers – perceptions and reality

It was not our secret plan to conquer Europe. We did not want to cause any trouble. However, it is necessary to realize, that the willingness of Member States to implement fully freedom to provide services in the Single Market is being put to the test by Polish service companies. German cars, Belgian chocolates, Swiss banks, Spanish design, Swedish furniture and Finnish education system – these terms represent the highest quality in their respective fields. It is high time to add Polish services to this list.

Although European freedom to provide services is as important as other fundamental freedoms, its application is a protracted process. It improves competitiveness and thus contributes to creation of new jobs by means of the better allocation of skills on the Single Market.

Dynamic and unplanned development of cross-border services has resulted in the division of Europe into sending and host States. Sending States are accused of “social dumping” and abusing low labour costs. On the other hand, host States are being reproached for protectionism and hindering freedom to provide services in order to protect fraudulently their national markets.

We need to ponder if Europe is ready to completely implement the freedom to provide services and in the result to improve mobility and job creation on the Single Market or will gradually build economic borders between the Member States? This question should be asked in the context of posted workers’ rights and social dimension of the EU economy.

I am fully convinced that the protection of workers’ rights and freedom to provide services are not opposite values and they do not contradict each other, but ensure complementarity. The source of the problem is located somewhere else. Therefore, **facts must be separated from the perceptions wrongly perceived as real.**

We invite You to the IV European Labour Mobility Congress, where among prominent experts, we will raise the issue of freedom to provide services, the situation of the economies of CEE States on the Single Market and future of European service companies and their employees.

We cordially invite you to Krakow!



Stefan Schwarz
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