Seminar
“The decline of the trade union movement: The only way for trade unions to succeed is to embrace the future”

The European Organization of the World Organization of Workers (WOW-Europe)
Porto (Portugal), 08-10.10.2019

Trade unions remain a very important social institution but as membership is declining, they will have to adapt and develop new forms of worker governance if they are to survive.

Initiatives are taken and new approaches are developed, but until now this has not resulted in the desired effects. There has been growth in membership here and there, but still far too little.

WOW had invited its members as well as Eurofedop to its seminar on 8th to 10th October in Porto, Portugal.

The floor was given to prominent speakers such as John Hurley, Research Manager, Employment Unit, Eurofound (Ireland) as well as João Pedro Ferreira Loureiro from NOVA University (Portugal) and Marius Kalanta from Vytautas Magnus University (Lithuania).

A point of view from an international angle was given by Susan Siemens and Brendan Kooy from the Christian Labour Association of Canada (CLAC).

The Spanish situation was analysed by José Pablo Calleja Jiménez from the University of Oviedo (Spain) and, on behalf of Portugal, Isabel Maria Bonito Roque from the University of Coimbra (Portugal) gave a presentation of the research she had performed.

With this seminar, WOW has had the merit of leaving behind the problems of trade unions in the past and building a vision for the future.