

Low wages don't mean more jobs

Workers Solidarity Movement

1993

According to the European Commission's latest employment report, Ireland has the third lowest manufacturing employment costs for the bosses. Despite all the whining about the indirect costs of employing extra workers, Ireland has the 4th lowest indirect costs – only slightly above Britain, Portugal, Greece and Denmark.

The figures also demonstrate how there is little link between accepting wage freezes and employment. The countries with the highest wages are also those with the lowest unemployment. The countries with the highest unemployment are also those with the lowest wages. The bosses tell us accepting wage freezes will help create jobs. This is crap. It will, however, give them even larger profits. Once again there is no common cause between the bosses and the workers.

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Retrieved on 13th October 2021 from struggle.ws
Published in *Workers Solidarity* No. 40 – Autumn 1993.

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