



## General Strike

The CGIL has called a general strike for **December 12<sup>th</sup>**, in order to demand that the measures of economic and social policy needed to govern the serious crisis currently under way be taken.

The consequences of the crisis must not be placed on the shoulders of workers, retirees, individuals with uncertain employment and their families.

The CGIL proposes a “**Plan against the Crisis**”, presented to its National Assembly of Managers and Delegates on 5 November in Rome, in the presence of more than 10,000 working men and women.

This “plan”, which addresses today’s problems in order to construct a project for the future, also touches on the condition of immigrant workers, specifically calling for:

- **the restoration and use of abandoned military barracks** as temporary residences for immigrant workers and as housing for students”;
- **a measure to regularise the status of immigrants**, in order to fight unregistered, clandestine labour, considering immigrants as a resource for development;
- **a reform of citizenship**, emphasising – in addition to a positive and more effective management of the incoming flows of immigrants and of family reunifications – the need to define procedures of stabilisation and integration, in what amounts to a full-fledged reform of citizenship, especially for those born in Italy, so as to overcome discrimination, beginning with voting rights;
- **suspension of the effects of the Bossi-Fini Act for immigrants who lose their jobs on account of crises at their companies**, seeing that the government measures, with the pretext of opposing illegal immigration, actually strike out indiscriminately against legal immigrant workers and citizens as well (stricter conditions for the issue of CE residence permits and for the reunification of families), meaning immigrants who work, pay taxes (4 billion Euro in 2007), live and go about their business in accordance with our laws. It is not acceptable that, when one of these immigrant workers (there are more than 2,300,000), who has worked for years in Italy (turning out 9% of the gross domestic product), who sends his or her children to school in order to build a future in this country, loses their job, they also lose their residence permit, becoming illegal immigrants and potential victims of blackmailers or of expulsion from the country.

The CGIL places more emphasis than ever before on its multiethnic nature, insisting that there can be no barriers of race or nationality when it comes to defending rights, because **Unequal Rights = Less Rights for Everyone**.

**We working men and women immigrants will hold a mass strike, joining the demonstrations because we are well aware that the only way to defend our rights as immigrants is to stand up for and defend the rights of everyone.**

**National Immigrant Committee - CGIL**