

Editorial

Dear social partners and readers,

The publication of this newsletter comes after more than one year of unprecedented COVID-19 crisis during which social dialogue at all levels, on a tripartite as well as on a bipartite basis, has contributed to pragmatic and balanced solutions to mitigate the impact of the crisis and sustain the recovery.

Social partners continue to address the COVID-19 pandemic focusing on the recovery of the European economy, with 12 new statements adopted since the publication of the last social dialogue newsletter in October 2020. Cross-industry social partners urged Member States to endorse the agreement found on the Recovery Fund and the Multiannual Financial Framework. Hospitality social partners joined their forces for "Working together for a quick, safe & sustainable recovery of Europe's hospitality sector". Social partners from different sectors tried to form new alliances to reach out to sectors, such as tourism, that are not part of EU sectoral social dialogue but severely impacted. The European services industry joined forces to strengthen social dialogue in building a resilient Europe. HORECA and Aviation continuously called for support for the relaunch of their sectors.

Maritime social partners continued their efforts to achieve effective crew changes and bring home seafarers after months in the sea. Social partners asked to prioritise industrial cleaning, seafarers and aircrews for vaccination.

In addition to the joint actions related to the COVID-19 situation, the European social partners adopted 25 new joint statements since October 2020.

The activities regarding EU level social dialogue have also been very intense, in particular in the context of the preparation of the European Pillar of Social Rights Action Plan (EPSR). The broad consultation on the action plan ended in November 2020. After a series of consultation with social partners, Ms Andrea Nahles published her report on strengthening the European social dialogue on 3rd February 2021. With the adoption of the EPSR Action Plan on 4 March, the Commission announced that it will present an initiative to support social dialogue at EU and national level in 2022.

Social dialogue highlights



Report on strengthening EU social dialogue by Ms Andrea Nahles, Special Advisor on Social Dialogue to Commissioner Nicolas Schmit (03/02/2021).

Thanks to her experience of social dialogue processes and labour market policies, as well as to numerous **meetings and contributions by the social partners** in the last six months, Ms Nahles' [report](#) proposes a set of concrete initiatives on social dialogue to implement the principle 8 on social dialogue of the [European Pillar of Social Rights](#). Ms Nahles presented her report to the social partners at the Liaison Forum on 9 March. [\(More\)](#)



The European Pillar of Social Rights Action Plan presented to EU social partners (09/03/2021).

The Director-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, Mr Joost Korte, had an exchange with the sectoral social partners on the Pillar Action Plan at a meeting of the Liaison Forum on 9th March. He informed that following consultation with social partners in 2021, the Commission will present an initiative to support social dialogue at EU and national level in 2022.

The initiative will include the following four actions:

- the launch of a new award for innovative social dialogue practices;
- an information and visiting programme for young future social partner leaders;
- the review of sectoral social dialogue at EU level;
- a new supporting frame for social partner agreements at EU level.

These initiatives will be prepared and implemented in close cooperation with social partners. [\(More\)](#)

Tripartite social summit (24/03/2021)

EU leaders and social partners met on 24 March 2021, at the Tripartite Social Summit to discuss the question "how to achieve a fair and sustainable recovery?". They intervened on following main topics:

- handling the health, economic and social crisis while maintaining emergency measures
- the contribution of social partners at EU and member state level for an economic and social recovery
- the road to Porto Social Summit

[\(More\)](#)

News from the Commission relevant for social dialogue



Advancing the EU social market economy: adequate minimum wages for workers across Member States. The Commission proposed an EU Directive to ensure that the workers in the EU are protected by adequate minimum wages allowing for a decent living wherever they work. Negotiations with the Council and the European Parliament (28/10/2020). [\(More\)](#)



The Pact for Skills: mobilising all partners to invest in skills. Commissioners Schmit and Breton have officially launched the Pact for Skills, a central element of the European Skills Agenda. They have also announced the first European skills partnerships in key industrial ecosystems – automotive, microelectronics, and aerospace and defence industries (11/11/2020). [\(More\)](#)

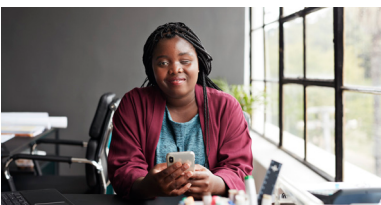


The European Pillar of Social Rights: turning principles into actions. The Commission sets out its ambition for a strong Social Europe that focuses on jobs and skills for the future and paves the way for a fair, inclusive and resilient socio-economic recovery (4/03/2021). [\(More\)](#)

The Commission Recommendation on '**Active and effective support for employment**' (EASE) was adopted together with the Action plan on the European Pillar (04/03/2021). [\(More\)](#)



The European Commission has presented a **proposal on pay transparency** to ensure that women and men in the EU get equal pay for equal work (04/03/2021). [\(More\)](#)



Union of Equality: European Commission presented Strategy for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 2021-2030. This is an ambitious Strategy for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities to ensure their full participation in society, on an equal basis with others in the EU and beyond (03/03/2021). [\(More\)](#)

Consultation of the social partners under Article 154 TFEU

Social partners were consulted on the initiatives in the social field:

First phase consultations of the European social partners on the protection of workers from risks related to exposure to chemical agents at work and to asbestos at work to improve the prevention of work-related diseases by tackling existing, new, and emerging risks (17/12/2020). [\(More\)](#) [\(More\)](#)



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First-stage consultation of European social partners on how to improve the working conditions for people working through digital labour platforms and ask the views of European social partners on the need and direction of possible EU action to improve the working conditions in platform work (24/02/2021). [\(More\)](#)

Consultation of social partners outside Art 154 TFEU

Dedicated hearings were organised to consult social partners on the planned initiatives



- On 4 November 2020, a dedicated hearing with social partners on the European Disability Strategy offered an opportunity for social partners to engage with the European Commission on the **European Disability Strategy 2021-2030**. The meeting was chaired by Neil Kerr, Head of Cabinet of Commissioner Dalli. [\(More\)](#)

- A dedicated hearing on **sustainable corporate governance** took place on 22 February 2021.

- **New Pact on Migration and Asylum:** The EU social partners and Commissioner Johansson exchanged opinions over how to best cooperate on the legal migration initiatives announced in the New Pact on Migration and Asylum, with a particular focus on **Talent Partnerships**. Participants discussed topics such as legal mobility schemes, economic growth and education pre-departure programmes (26/02/2021). [\(More\)](#) [\(More\)](#)

- On 16 March 2021, an exchange of views with social partners took place on the **monitoring framework on access to social protection for workers and the self-employed**.

- On 26 March 2021, a social partners hearing was organised on Seasonal Workers.

Social partners hearings planned:

- April 12: Collective bargaining for self-employed,
- April 15: Initiatives on micro-credentials and individual learning account,
- April 21: Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work,
- Social Economy Action Plan (May/June 2021).

Social partners also contributed to the design of the EU initiatives

The social partners from the Postal sector adopted a Joint contribution for the consultation on the Postal Services Directive.



COVID-19: Joint responses by the EU social partners

The social partners reported on their joint statements adopted in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic since October 2020.

Cross-industry

- **Cross industry EU Social Partners, BusinessEurope, ETUC, CEEP and SMEUnited, urged the Member States to endorse the agreement found on the recovery fund and long-term budget** (18/11/2020). [\(More\)](#)

Multi-sectorial

- **Recovery and Resilience Facility | Transport keeps us going forward**, social partners representing the maritime, ports, inland-waterways, road, rail and air transport called on Member States and the European Commission to ensure that the transport sector receives adequate consideration in the National Recovery and Resilience Plans (10/02/2021). [\(More\)](#)
- **Working together for a quick, safe & sustainable recovery of Europe's hospitality sector** - Food Service Europe, Hotels, Restaurants and Cafés in Europe (HOTREC) and EuroCommerce, with the European Federation of Food, Agriculture and Tourism Trade Unions (EFFAT) and UNI Europa, as well as other signatories, called for the immediate setting up of a hospitality task force across the EU Institutions to discuss the impact that COVID-19 has had on business and jobs and deliver a roadmap for the recovery of the hospitality sector and its value chain (27/01/2021). [\(More\)](#)
- **European Services industry joined forces to strengthening social dialogue in building a resilient Europe** - European Services' social partners jointly adopted a statement and held a workshop to strengthen European sectoral social dialogue: 'Strengthening sectoral social dialogue in the services industry: The all-important role of social partners in building a resilient Europe'. A seminar to exchange ideas followed in February and a meeting with Commissioner Schmit took place on 11 March 2021. [\(More\)](#)
- **European aviation and tourism sectors requires a coordinated approach to cross-border travel - Open letter to the Portuguese EU presidency.** Ahead of the 1 March Extraordinary meeting of Ministers of Tourism, 14 European stakeholders in aviation and tourism urged the Portuguese presidency of the EU to put their efforts into the coordination of all restrictive measures related to COVID-19 (24/02/2021). [\(More\)](#)

Civil Aviation

- **Recovery of European Aviation sector**, a broad coalition of aviation stakeholders including employers, trade unions and NGOs signed up to the Aviation Round Table Report in November 2020. The aviation social partners outlined the role aviation plays in the overall functioning of Europe's economy and provided recommendations on how to restore European air connectivity, making sure other sectors that depend on aviation, such as tourism, can resume their activity. [Link to the report](#)



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The aviation social partners recently adopted three joint statements:

- Joint Statement by the European Social partners in Civil Aviation on COVID-19 inoculation for aviation workers (1/02/2021).
- Joint Appeal from Civil Aviation social partners on "unruly passengers" to EU Member States as incidents of unruly passenger behaviour on board aircraft continue to rise and the situation has been further exacerbated by new COVID-19 related measures, most notably the requirement to wear facemasks on board an aircraft (30/11/2020).
- Joint Statement by the European social partners in Civil Aviation on payroll support schemes for aviation in response to the COVID-19 pandemic (22/10/2020).

[\(More\)](#) [\(More\)](#) [\(More\)](#)

Horeca

- Joint Statement on **Rebuilding the Hospitality Sector**: The social partners are concerned about the economic recovery HORECA sector. HOTREC and EFFAT published a joint position highlighting the importance of the EU recovery plan and that it should be deployed as soon as possible. The social partners ask furthermore to extend all the emergency measures. Additionally they recommend to implement the guidance on health and safety by EU-OSH and other international organisations (27/11/2021). [\(More\)](#)

Maritime Transport

- The European Community Shipowners' Associations (ECSA) and the European Transport Workers' Federation (ETF) in their open letter, urged EU Member States **to enable crew changes to take place without further delays and prioritise seafarers for vaccination** (21/01/2021). [\(More\)](#)
- The maritime social partners requested the European Commission to follow up on prompt and predictable **disembarkation of rescued people in distress at sea (14/12/2020)**. [\(More\)](#)

Railways

- The European Transport Workers Federation (ETF) and the Community of European Railway and Infrastructure Companies (CER) adopted a joint declaration on the **impact of COVID-19 pandemic in the railway sector**, the outstanding performance of the employees and the necessary measures for the future of the railways (03/12/2020). [\(More\)](#)

Joint outcomes by the social partners

Cross-industry

- EU Social Partners BusinessEurope, ETUC, SGI Europe and SMEUnited, adopted a European social partners' **joint contribution to the report by Andrea Nahles on social dialogue** (18/12/2020).

They identified five main areas where further progress is needed:

1. Strengthening the identification of broadly shared and consistent social affairs priorities at EU level
2. Towards more meaningful social partners' consultations by the Commission
3. Improving the functioning and coordination of EU Social Dialogue Committees
4. Improving social partner involvement in the recovery
5. Time to act to strengthen capacity-building of social partners in the countries and sectors where this is needed

[\(More\)](#)



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- **Joint statement on childcare provisions in the EU** Cross industry social partners reminded that the social dialogue plays a role in developing practical tools to increase access and affordability to childcare, for example by creating joint funds by collective agreements to support childcare projects addressing specific needs of working parents in specific sectors, such as care for children with illness and disabilities, care outside regular opening hours. They issued recommendations to the Member States and the Commission. [\(More\)](#)

Multisectoral



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- **The European Network for Silica (NEPSI) 2006 social dialogue agreement success story**, NEPSI Good Practice Guide for the application of the Agreement updated in 2020. The NEPSI agreement aims to protect the health of employees occupationally exposed to respirable crystalline silica in 18 industry sectors. The NPSI Guide helps to minimising such exposure by applying good practices, and increasing the knowledge and awareness about potential health effects of respirable crystalline silica as well as about good practices (5/02/2021). [\(More\)](#)

Central Government Administrations

- The Central Government Administrations European social dialogue committee was created 10 years ago with the European Public administration Employers (EUPAE) and the Trade Unions' National and European Administration Delegation (TUNED), the European Public Services Union (EPSU) in cooperation with the European Confederation of Independent Trade Unions (CESI). They adopted a **Joint statement for the 10th anniversary of the EU Social Dialogue Committee** (03/12/2020). [\(More\)](#)

Chemical Industries

- IndustriAll European Trade Union and the European Chemical Employers Group, representing the chemical, pharmaceutical, plastics and rubber industries, issued a **joint statement on the Chemical Strategy for Sustainability**. They welcomed the ambition of the European Commission to propose a comprehensive strategy for chemicals and called for the involvement of the Sectoral Social Dialogue Committee in any further development of the framework. The Social Partners highlighted that a future-proof strategy must equally address all three dimensions of sustainability: ecological, social and economic (27/10/2020). [\(More\)](#)

Construction

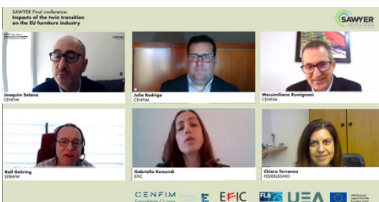
- European Federation of Building and Woodworkers (EFBWW) and the European Construction Industry Federation (FIEC) cooperate in the framework of **the Decentralized Thematic Social Dialogue for the Construction Industry (DESOCO)**
 - A thematic workshop on “third country nationals and companies present on the EU construction market” – and the unlevel playing field that they are generating was organised in December 2020
 - In February 2021, an other thematic workshop on “risk assessment in construction” was the opportunity for the Polish construction social partners to present their national systemMore EU-funded project “[DESOCO](#)”.

Extractive industry

- The European associations for the extractive industry*and IndustriAll-Europe, adopted “**A long-term and ambitious EU Raw Materials Strategy**”. They wish to strengthen the dialogue within the European Commission Raw Materials Supply Group and propose to adopt a long-term Working Programme with the 2050 perspective taking into account the above points (04/12/2020) [\(More\)](#)

*European Association of Mining Industries (Euromines), the European Association for Coal and Lignite (EURACOAL), the European Industrial Minerals Association (IMA Europe), the European Aggregates Association (UEPG), the European Association of Potash Producers (APEP)

Furniture



- On 10 March 2021, the Furniture sector social partners organized the SAWYER project final conference forecasting **the impact of the Twin Transition (Digital & Green) on the EU furniture sector in 2030**. The on-line conference was well attended, featuring presentations by experts, EU social partners and the Commission. They presented the project outcomes forecasting the changes of jobs tasks, occupational risks, new and updated needs for skills, knowledge and competencies of 11 occupational profiles. [\(Link to video presentation\)](#)

Gas

- Eurogas, IndustriAll and the European federation of Public Service Unions (EPSU), adopted a **Joint statement on just transition**, highlighting the need for the Just Transition Mechanism and the Industrial Strategy to be consistent and complementary in order to ensure that the transition succeeds in keeping integrated carbon-neutral industrial value chains and quality employment in Europe (23/11/2020). [\(More\)](#)

Hospitals and healthcare



- **Hospital sector on strengthening the social dialogue in Central Europe** The European Federation of Public Service Unions (EPSU) and the European Hospital and Healthcare Employers Association (HOSPEEM) will organise a webinar targeted towards their members from Croatia, Czech Republic, Slovakia, and Slovenia to review their priorities in the EU-level sectoral social dialogue and their involvement in the European Semester, collected via a survey and summarised in the form of country fact sheets (20/04/2021). [\(More\)](#)

Insurance

- The European social partners in the insurance sector, Insurance Europe, AMICE, BIPAR and UNI Europa, adopted a **Joint Declaration on Artificial Intelligence**. Through this declaration, the social partners stress that AI is designed and used to enhance rather than replace human abilities (16/03/2021). [\(More\)](#)

Metal Industry

- **Investing in a swift recovery of the European industrial**, IndustriAll European Trade Union and the Council of European Employers of the Metal, Engineering and Technology-Based Industries (CEEMET) called on the EU and governments to keep on investing in Europe's industrial basis as cornerstone for a swift recovery. The MET Social partners are ready to provide input for the development and implementation of the national recovery plans and to support the deployment of the Recovery Fund at national level and thus urge their national government to be given the opportunity to contribute to the design and implementation of these plans (30/11/2020). [\(More\)](#)
- **The impact of digitalisation on the world of work in the MET industries**, the social partners identified four areas in which social dialogue can shape the ongoing technological change to the benefit of both, employers and workers: work organisation, skills, occupational health & safety and data protection. With digital transformation happening at a different speed across regions and companies and in a context of rapidly changing technological parameters, the social partners express their firm belief that finding tailor-made solutions will become increasingly important (09/11/2020). [\(More\)](#)

Personal services



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- In their last joint statement, the social partners in the hairdressing sector (Coiffure EU and UNI Europa), welcome the cooperation between the European Commission, the European Agency for Occupational Health and Safety at work (EU OSHA) and the social partners regarding the autonomous implementation of their **European Framework Agreement on health and safety** signed in 2016 (02/12/2020). [\(More\)](#)

Postal services

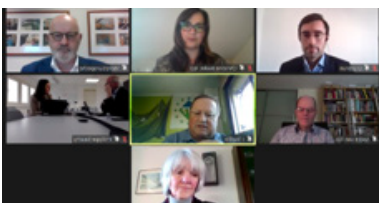
- PostEurop, UNI Europa and the European Confederation of Independent Trade Unions (CESI) adopted a **Joint Contribution of European Social Dialogue in the Postal Sector to the consultation on the Postal Services Directive** (13/11/2020).
- The project “**Postal Skills and Work Environment in the Digital Era**” of the SDC for the European Postal Sector investigates specific digital skills of the sector and analyses the relationship between workers and highly digitized work environment also for health & safety purposes. The first questionnaire on back office activities was launched and interviews with postal experts are started. The project is funded under the call for proposal to support the social dialogue (VS/2019/0441). [\(More\)](#)

Road

- **Joint Recommendations on Digital Transformation and Social Dialogue in Urban Public Transport in Europe**, the International organisation for public transport authorities & operators (UITP) and the European Transport Workers’ Federation (ETF) are committed to shaping the digital transformation of UPT by promoting social dialogue at all levels. They agree to use the digital transformation process as a lever to further develop high-quality mobility to better serve customers and reinforce the central role of public transport as the backbone for sustainable urban mobility services in line with the objectives of the European Green Deal (18/03/2021). [\(More\)](#)
- International Road Transport Union (IRU), European Transport Workers’ Federation (ETF) with the European Shippers’ Council (ESC), adopted a **Charter on improving the treatment of drivers at delivery sites**. They invite all stakeholders to sign the Charter and commit to improving the treatment of drivers at company premises (25/11/2020). The Charter adopted by IRU, ETF and European Shippers Council (ESC), aims at improving the treatment of drivers at loading and unloading sites and thereby improve working conditions, increase operational efficiency, and ultimately, contribute to making the driving profession more attractive. The Charter is an invitation to all stakeholders to sign and to launch national campaigns for the promotion of the Charter. [\(More\)](#) [Charter web site](#)

Sea fisheries

- The sea fisheries social partners (ETF, Europêche and Cogeca) have been relentlessly advocating for better protection of the fishers’ rights across the EU and beyond. On 20 November 2020 ETF and Europêche, in cooperation with the International Labour Organization (ILO), the European Commission and authorities of Denmark, France, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom, hosted a [webinar](#) calling for the ratification and implementation of the ILO Work in Fishing Convention (C188). In the same context, the social partners issued [a Resolution on human rights and labour abuses in certain Asian fleets](#) and urged the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) to make progress on the [social dimension of fisheries](#) to ensure sustainability at a global level and involve social partners in the process. [\(More\)](#)



Sugar

- The European Committee of Sugar Manufacturers (CEFS) and the European Federation of Food, Agriculture and Tourism Trade Unions (EFFAT) published a **joint statement: EU policies need to be coherent to ensure a just transition**, highlighting the situation of the sugar sector in international trade. The social partners stressed that the sector has been hit hard by the end of the third countries import quotas. They demand the EU institutions to establish coherent policies and ensure just transitions (8/02/2021). [\(More\)](#)

Telecommunications

- The European Telecommunications Network Operators' Association (ETNO) and UNI Europa, adopted a **Joint Declaration on Artificial Intelligence (AI)**, to stress the essential role to play by the social partners, contribute to the general debate on AI and to provide guidance to the sector regarding the opportunities and the risks that AI represents (30/11/2020). [\(More\)](#)
- Temporary agency work social partners, WEC-Europe and UNI-Europa, adopted **Joint Recommendations on Social Innovation** based on a social dialogue research EU-funded project (VS/2019/0034), presented at an event with the presence of the Commission (01/12/2020). [\(More\)](#)
- A research project led by CEPS and the Catholic University of Leuven/HIVA analyses the success factors and potential for replicability of initiatives put in place by social partners in the agency work sector to improve training, working conditions and social protection of workers. The findings were discussed during an online event. [Research project finds in agency work sector elements for success in fostering social innovation - World Employment Confederation \(weceurope.org\)](#)

Woodworking

- The European Federation of Building and Woodworkers (EFBWW), the European Confederation of woodworking industries (CEI-Bois) and other stakeholders adopted a **joint opinion regarding the Commission's Communication "A Renovation Wave for Europe - greening our buildings, creating jobs, improving lives"**. The signatories welcome the Communication and support some of the Commission proposals (03/11/2020). [\(More\)](#)

ECJ

General advocate opinion was issued on 20 January 2021 in the case C 928/19 P on the appeal brought by EPSU against the judgment of the General Court of the European Union of 24 October 2019 in case T-310/18, by which the General Court dismissed the action for annulment brought by EPSU and Mr Jan Goudriaan against the decision adopted by the European Commission in its letter of 5 March 2018 refusing to submit a proposal for a decision implementing an agreement between the social partners to the Council of the European Union.

ELA

ELA Work programme 2021 includes undertaking support actions for information to employers and workers in specific sectors. Priority will be given to target groups or sectors most in need in the context of the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic, such as cross-border and seasonal workers and will also include road transport application and effective enforcement of the legislative provisions of the Mobility Package. ([More](#))

EUROFOUND

COVID-19 crisis led to doubling of EU restructuring job loss in first six months of 2020

The COVID-19 crisis has led to a doubling of restructuring job loss in the first half of 2020 compared to the rolling average. The labour market impacts have been highly selective, with two broad sectors – transport (including air transport) and hotels and restaurants – accounting for nearly half the overall announced job loss compared to less than 10% in 'normal' times. The new European Restructuring Monitor ERM report 2020: Restructuring across borders reviews recent restructuring activity in the EU, from January 2019 up to and including the first impacts of the COVID-19 crisis. It also presents an analysis of transnational restructuring cases – those that affect workers in more than one country (11/11/2020).

EU-OSHA

Stop the pandemic: Update to EU guidance on adapting workplaces and protecting workers in times of COVID-19

EU-OSHA has released a revision of the occupational safety and health EU guidance that was published last year. The document is available in 25 languages and it includes examples of measures, which can help employers achieve an appropriate safe and healthy work environment when undertaking or resuming activities. ([Read the updated EU guidance](#))

A new set of social partners join the Healthy Workplaces Lighten the Load Campaign

The official campaign partners and media partners supporting EU-OSHA's campaign on work-related MSDs are crucial to help and prevent them through the promotion and exchange of good practices. EU-OSHA also supports the EU initiative CHRODIS PLUS to strengthen the inclusiveness of workplaces and the work ability of employees with chronic conditions. ([Get to know the partners](#))

OiRA tools – a decade of navigating occupational risks and beyond

Over 147,000 risk assessments have been carried out with EU-OSHA's Online interactive Risk Assessment platform – OiRA – by micro and small enterprises all over Europe during the past decade. 58 new OiRA tools were published in 2020, increasing the total number to 239. To help keeping employees safe and healthy during the pandemic, [15 national OiRA COVID-19 tools](#) have been developed.



Trends and implications for workplace safety and health in the agriculture and forestry sectors

A [new report](#) provides a snapshot of the findings of EU-OSHA's foresight project on the organisational and technological changes facing the agriculture and forestry sector, and the resulting challenges for occupational safety and health. The sector has one of the highest accident rates in Europe. The report concludes with recommendations for future research and policy-making.

ILO

ILO reported on the **analysis of the activities of employer and business membership organizations in the COVID-19 pandemic and what comes next**. Employer and business membership organizations (EBMOs) across the globe have been at the forefront of helping the businesses they represent to weather the COVID-19 crisis. EBMOs around the world have stepped up to deliver crucial services and amplify the business voice amid the sheer enormity of the COVID-19 crisis (25/01/2021). ([More](#))

MoveS Network of independent legal experts in the field of intra-EU mobility.

Citizens can explore the field of EU social security coordination through A-Z/FAQs facility, the '[A-Z of social security coordination \(FAQs\)](#)' is a facility setting out the basic principles and frequently raised issues in the field of EU social security coordination. The information is structured around keywords and provides answers to specific questions as well as plenty of practical examples and links to further information sources. ([More](#))

Calls for proposals

- **2020 calls for proposals in the social dialogue field:**
 - Strengthening the role of social partners in mitigating the economic and social impact of the COVID-19 crisis, 5 millions of extra support. Deadline for submitting proposals is 26/04/2021.
 - Information and training measures for workers' organisations: 34 applications received, 20 projects selected for an amount of 5,46 million euro.
 - Support for social dialogue: 36 applications received 27 selected for an amount of EUR 9,33 million euro.
 - Improving expertise in the field of industrial relations: award to be completed shortly. An information day for project owners will be organised in spring 2021.
- **2021 calls for proposals in the social dialogue field will be managed in a new system, with paperless submission of applications called eGrants system.**
 - The call for proposals for information and training measures for workers' organisations was published for an amount of 5,93 million euro. The call will be open for submitting proposals from 6 April 2021. The deadline for the submission of applications is 9 June 2021. [Webpage](#)
 - Support for social dialogue call for proposals will have an amount of 15,93 million euro. It will include two new priorities, related to the impact of COVID-19, (1) strengthening capacity of national social partners and (2) technical assistance by EU cross-industry social partners to national social partners.
 - The industrial relations call will have a budget of 4,15 million euro and is expected to be published end April 2021.

Social Dialogue Meetings / other news

With the outbreak of COVID-19, restrictions on travel and the rules for social distancing, meetings of social dialogue committees continue to be organised with teleconferencing until further notice.

Send us your contribution

You have a contribution for the next edition of the newsletter? Please contact the [editor](#).

We also look forward to your comments and suggestions.

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