

Half-way through a lost decade?

Welcome to this very first issue of 'etui news'. With this monthly newsletter, our Institute will keep you informed about its recent and planned activities. Through its research, publications, events and training seminars, the ETUI provides evidence-based input for the debate on the future of Social Europe.

Five priorities related to the European policy agenda define our work: the crisis and the European Semester; worker participation; sustainable development and industrial policy; working conditions and job quality; trade union renewal.

Within the context of the forthcoming European elections, our researchers will continue to analyse the crisis in all its social and institutional aspects and to present alternatives to current austerity policies. ['Why should the trade unions care about EU elections'](#) was the title of a special January seminar organized in Vienna by the education department for trade union communicators.

The ETUI's annual flagship publication ['Benchmarking Working Europe'](#) (to be published mid- March under the motto 'Halfway through a lost decade') will present a critical, fact-based evaluation of the European anti-crisis policies of the last five years and highlight the need for a European investment plan. It will also be our input to the EU's stakeholder [review of the Europe 2020 agenda](#).

One of the absolute top priorities for EU policymakers is tackling youth unemployment. A recent ETUI [background analysis](#) provides an overview of initiatives in member states regarding the EU's European Youth Guarantee.

A three-day (24-26 September) conference 'Europe at the crossroads' will gather trade unionists, social researchers and high-level policy-makers to discuss future policies for quality jobs and sustainable prosperity.

We hope that you will enjoy this new monthly newsletter and welcome your feedback.

Maria Jepsen and Ulisses Garrido, directors ETUI

Publications

The Janus face of the 'New ways of Work': rise, risks and regulation of nomadic work



'New ways of working' related to the internet and mobile technologies are on the rise. This report focuses on the hidden dangers of these new ways of working: techno-stress, techno-addiction, the blurring of boundaries between work and private life, burn-out and overtiredness, safety risks and ergonomic problems.

[Read more](#)

Collective labour law under attack: how anti-crisis measures dismantle workers' collective rights

This policy brief demonstrates how the EU's financial and economic crisis has been used to attack European collective labour law. The paper identifies ways out of this crisis of labour law by looking at possible litigation strategies and recourse to international instances.

[Read more](#)

Negotiating flexibility and security in multinationals in Europe: the case for extending European Framework

Events

Save the dates

- 25 April: Monthly Forum on **Benchmarking Working Europe 2014**: 'Halfway through a lost decade'.
- 29 April: Conference **Europe's energy transition: between sustainability and affordability**, with Fatih Birol, chief economist of the International Energy Agency.

27 March: Green jobs – safe jobs? Jobs and the environment in the waste and recycling sectors

The Commission wants Europe to become a 'recycling society' by 2020, a society that aims, in other words, to avoid waste or to use it as a resource. This 'circular economy' would create huge opportunities in terms of jobs and the environment but also raises important questions about the waste management and recycling practices affecting these jobs.

Linked to the launch of a special edition of ETUI's HESAMag, this half-day conference will focus on the job opportunities as well as environmental and working condition challenges in the waste and recycling sector. [Venue, programme and registration](#)

Past events

ETUI Monthly Forum deciphers the REFIT law review programme

The ETUI Monthly Forum held on 28 February zeroed in on the European Commission's programme to streamline EU legislation, known by the abbreviation REFIT (from Regulatory Fitness and Performance

Agreements

This policy brief presents lessons from comparative research on collective bargaining on flexibility and security. It demonstrates the importance of European Framework Agreements (EFA's) on security (e.g. on training, requalification, career progression etc.) as a tool to enhance unions' capacity to negotiate employment security in difficult economic times.

[Read more](#)



1973-2013 : 40 years of history of the European Trade Union Confederation

This joint ETUC-ETUI publication takes stock of the 40-year history of the European Trade Union Confederation. On the basis of numerous unpublished documents, the book tells the story of the challenges, successes and failures of the ETUC over these forty years. It combines a scientific and historical approach with a political one, the aim being to 'reveal a rationale for action, a sense of coherence, and to identify the guiding principle that has characterised the – sometimes fraught – history of the ETUC'. [Preface and introduction are available for free online](#)

Training

Promoting methodological and technological cooperation for a better trade union and workers' education

The ETUI Education department, in cooperation with ITC-ILO ACTRAV and SOLIDAR, is organising, for the 2nd time, a two-day workshop "Promoting methodological and technological cooperation for a better trade union and workers' education" in Turin on the 27th and 28th of March, with representatives from Trade Union and Workers' education training centres or schools.

[Read more](#)

What kind of trade union for what kind of Europe?

A joint ETUI-ETUC workshop "What kind of trade union for what kind of Europe?" for international secretaries of ETUC affiliates will be held from 20 to 22 March in Sesimbra, Portugal.

[Read more](#)

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Programme). Its aim is to simplify or scrap directives and regulations supposed to be an "administrative burden" on business.

[Read more](#)

Broadening horizons: the practice of board-level employee representation across Europe

On 18-19 February, over 150 board-level employee representatives, academic experts and trade union officials and advisors from all across Europe joined the 2014 Conference of the European Workers' Participation Competence Centre (EWPPCC). The Conference showcased the findings of the first ever large-scale survey of board-level employee representatives across Europe. The "Voice of Labour" survey collected the responses of more than 4500 board-level employee representatives from 17 countries to detailed questions about their roles, activities and perceptions.

[Read more](#)

Periodicals

- *Transfer*, the European Review of Labour and Research

Issue 2014/1 - Labour markets and social policy after the crisis.

[Read more](#)

- *SEER*, Journal for Labour & Social Affairs in Eastern Europe

Issue 2013/3 - Developments of the economies, macroeconomic indicators and challenges in South-East European countries.

[Read more](#)

- *HesaMag*, magazine for health and safety at work

Issue 2013/8 - Chemical hazards: state of play 6 years into REACH.

[Read more](#)