

After the EU elections: building a Europe of jobs and prosperity

The project of fundamental concern within the world of labour is to build a Europe of jobs and sustainable prosperity. Attention has been drawn to the ills perpetrated by austerity policies over the last few years; the overriding urgency now is to set the European Union firmly on the road to a genuine process of reconstruction. The problem of employment has to be tackled at the core; a new scenario has to be written to find ways of dealing with the challenges posed by unemployment, precarious work, the segmentation of labour markets, mobility, training, the employment situation of older workers, psycho-social risks in the workplace; a new way forward has to be devised, one that will serve also to strengthen a European economic and social democracy.

In September this crucial debate will be the focus of a major conference held under the joint auspices of the European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) and the European Trade Union Institute (ETUI). Participants in the debates will be prominent figures from academia, politics and the trade unions; discussion topics will be introduced by high-level speakers of international repute. The gathering will also provide the opportunity to sound out the men and women recently appointed to take up political responsibilities in the new Commission and European Parliament, as well as in the member states.

For more information on this important event, [consult our special webpage](#).

Philippe Pochet, General Director ETUI

Publications

Guide: Climate change. Implications for employment



The Fifth Assessment Report (AR5) from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change is the most comprehensive and relevant analysis of our changing climate. It provides the scientific fact base that will be used around the world to formulate climate policies in the coming years. This guide is one of a series of summaries of the AR report for stakeholders synthesising the most pertinent findings of AR5 for workers and employment. It was born of the belief that trade unions could make more use of AR5, which is long and highly technical, if it were distilled into an accurate, accessible, timely, relevant and readable summary.

[Read more](#)

Book: The asbestos lie. The past and present of an industrial catastrophe

For decades asbestos was considered an ideal substance and therefore was called 'the mineral of the twentieth century'. Even though the fiber had already proven much earlier to cause various

Events

Save the dates

- 19 June: **Monthly Forum - Unions and active labour market policy.**
- 26-27 June: 10th network seminar on **Workers' Protection and Chemicals**, Ispra, Italy.
- 30 June – 1 July: **ETUI Regional and Information OHS Forum**, Budapest
- 24-26 September: Conference **Europe at a crossroads. Which way to quality jobs and prosperity?**, Brussels.
- 22-24 October: **EduDay and EduConf**, Sofia.

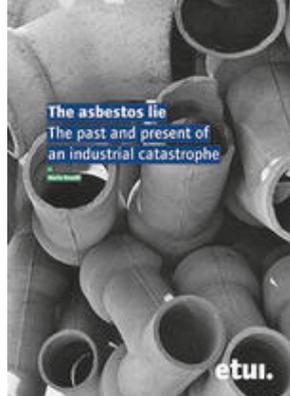
Recent events

23 May: Conference - The social-ecological transition: The role of business and labour



At the second conference in the ETUI cycle on 'the social-ecological transition', economist and author Pavan Sukhdev explained his vision for a new type of corporation ('Corporation 2020') which cares about its influence on society and communities, measures its impact on nature and on workers and social capital, and is open and transparent to all stakeholders.

Read our [news of the conference](#) and see the full keynote



ailments, a real boom began in the 1950s and prospered everywhere in Europe. This book retraces the history of the Swiss asbestos cement company Eternit, investigating the strategy it developed –

speech of Pavan Sukhdev on our YouTube channel.

[Read more](#)

together with other asbestos industrialists - to prevent this carcinogen from being outlawed until, in 1999, an EU Directive was finally adopted to this end. The book also reviews the struggle of the asbestos workers and their families to gain official recognition of, and compensation for, the harm suffered.

[Read more](#)

Book: Challenges, actors and practices of non-formal and informal learning and its validation in Europe

For over ten years, the dynamic management of people's vocational pathways and transitions has been attracting the close attention of European social and political players. In this context, non-formal and informal learning (NFIL) practices, as well as the possibility of NFIL recognition and validation, can benefit a wide range of social groups, in particular the most vulnerable, and contribute towards correcting educational inequalities. They can also have a significant impact on the whole system of access to knowledge, skills and competences within companies and on the labour market.

This book presents and updates the contents of a project conducted by a team from Groupe ALPHA for the European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) on NFIL practices and challenges in the EU, including a direct survey of ten Member States.

[Read more](#)

Book: Sortir de la crise. Vers un modèle de croissance plus équitable et plus durable

This is the French translation of the ETUI book 'Exiting from the crisis' edited by David Coates in 2011. The different articles in this book analyse the causes and implications of the crisis and propose alternative ways toward more equitable and sustainable models of growth. The book is highly relevant for the discussion on a new economic growth model.

[Read more](#)

Training

Training of Eurotrainers

The training of Eurotrainers is part of the ETUI's core 'training of trainers' (TOT) provision delivered every year. Its purpose is to develop the individual teaching skills of trainers from

27 May: Monthly Forum: Climate change: impact on jobs and employment

With the recent publication of three of the four reports of the Fifth Assessment Report (AR5) by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the climate issue has resurfaced on the global policymakers' agenda. The preparations for the Paris Climate Summit end of 2015 will ensure climate change will once more be one of the central topics for global governance in the next two years.

The ETUI has worked with the European Climate Foundation on a synthesis of the main messages in the AR5 reports related to employment and jobs. This Monthly Forum saw the launch of this summary publication and provided a platform for debate on the social aspects of European and global climate change policies.

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DocCentre and the European Institute for Gender Equality

The ETUI documentation centre took part in the second meeting organized by the Resource and Documentation Centre (RDC) of the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) based in Vilnius.

The EIGE's RDC was set up in order to compile, over the long term, the tangible memory of all gender equality work carried out at the EU and Member State level and to make this production accessible to all via a common platform. This platform is provided in collaboration with leading European documentation and information centres specialising in gender equality issues. It is in this context that the ETUI documentation centre was invited to be an active data provider. The ETUI Documentation centre catalogue will be soon integrated into this huge common catalogue.

[Read more](#)

Training on the impact of austerity on Health and Safety

From 6-7 May, the Education department and the Health and Safety Unit organized a Training "Health and safety facing austerity: challenges for Trade Union", in Krakow, Poland. This training aimed at identifying trade union strategies for health and safety in the face of austerity measures taken at different levels: local, enterprise, sectorial, national and European. The course was organised in partnership with local OPZZ. The program included also a session with the participation of the Polish National Labour Inspectorate and the Central Institute for Labour Protection.

CRIMT conference

From 12-14 May, an international conference dealing with the topic "The new frontiers for citizenship at work" was held at

member organisations as an investment in the future of these organisations' teaching strategies.

The training aims to extend the scope of the learning programmes beyond the national level and to give them a European dimension, setting the priority on a European trade union identity and greater visibility for the ETUC and the ETUI, in line with current and future needs. This learning itinerary is accordingly addressed to trainers who have completed a national basic training programme and gained experience of union training accredited by their organisation.

[Read more](#)

HEC Montréal (Montreal, Canada). The ETUI was one of the partner organisations supporting the conference and represented by Philippe Pochet and 5 researchers who presented results of their work in various panels. The ETUI also presented also a selection of our publications.

Consistently over the years the conference's added value has been the possibility to discuss research findings from the European field in a broader, transcontinental and global context.

[Read more](#)

In the media

- General Director [Philippe Pochet](#) was interviewed by French online magazine Slate.fr about the outcome of the European elections.
 - Research Director Maria Jepsen was quoted in an article originally written by [Danish Politiken](#) and later re-worked by [EurActiv.com](#) on the issue of in-work poverty.
 - Le Monde ran a story '[L'Europe, bienfaitrice des travailleurs ?](#)' in the context of the European elections with comments by Aida Ponce del Castillo, head of the Health and Safety, Working Conditions Unit of the ETUI.
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