

Editorial

The ETUI's Education department recently held its annual education days ('EduDays') in Berlin in order to define its training strategy for the period 2015-2019. Drawn up barely two months after the ETUC Congress in Paris, the new strategy builds on the political priorities adopted by the Congress for the new ETUC leadership.

Trade union training at European level is very important at a time when workers are displaying their growing disenchantment with the European integration project. There are, simultaneously, increasing signs that workers are turning to extremist or populist parties in the wake of the harsh austerity policies favoured by the European Union and the glaring current evidence that it lacks any real policy on migration. The victory of the *Front National* in the regional elections in France should be a wake-up call for anyone concerned to promote a social and democratic Europe.

The ETUI will continue to offer high-quality European training courses for trade unionists and workers' representatives on European Works Councils and related bodies. The new web site for tailor-made EWC training mentioned in the Focus section of this newsletter is clear tangible proof of the priority accorded by the ETUI to the cause of European trade union training.

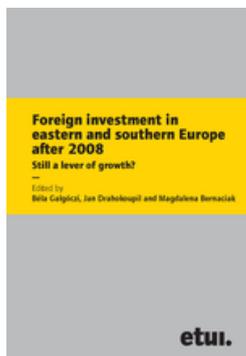
Education is an essential contribution for more efficient trade union action, for a real social and democratic Europe, and for reconnecting workers to the European project.

And last but not least, as this is the last issue of our newsletter for this year, our best wishes go to all our readers for the coming festive season.

Philippe Pochet, General Director ETUI and and Ulisses Garrido, Director of the ETUI Education department

Publications

Foreign investment in eastern and southern Europe after 2008. Still a lever of growth?



This book investigates the role that foreign direct investment (FDI) in central-eastern and southern Europe has played in the post-crisis period, comparing patterns across countries and sectors. An overarching objective of this publication is to assess the extent to which FDI can still be seen as a key driver of economic development, modernisation and convergence for Europe's low- and middle-income economies.

Editors: Béla Galgóczi, Jan Drahoukoupil and Magdalena Bernaciak

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How to avert the risk of deflation in Europe: rethinking the policy mix and European economic governance

This Policy Brief discusses the risks of deflation for the European economy. It critically evaluates the European economic governance for failing to avert this risk and discusses how a more coordinated approach to fiscal policy and collective wage bargaining – both of which should be aimed at

Focus

www.ewctraining.eu

The ETUI is happy to announce the launch of the new European Works Councils training web site.

NEW: www.ewctraining.eu

ETUI tailor-made training for your EWC, SE works council and SNB

You can visit the new website at the following address: www.ewctraining.eu

The site should attract a lot of new customers for the tailor-made training courses the Education department organises for members of European Works Councils and related bodies.

Events

Save the dates

- 07/01/2016: Lunch debate - [Wage developments and wage bargaining under the European Economic Governance](#).
- 26/01/2016: Monthly Forum - [The European Court of Justice and atypical work: halting labour market dualisation?](#).
- 28/01/2016: SAVE THE DATE - The refugee crisis in Europe (find soon more information on the ETUI website)
- 01/02/2016: **NEW DATE** - Monthly Forum - [The long and winding road from black to green – decades of structural change in the Ruhr region](#).
- 18/02/2016: SAVE THE DATE - Book launch: Unemployment, internal devaluation and labour market deregulation in



national inflation targets in the context of macroeconomic dialogue – could help stimulate aggregate demand and move the European economy away from the brink of deflation.

Europe. (find soon more information on the ETUI website)

- 23/02/2016: SAVE THE DATE - Social reality of Europe after the crisis. (find soon more information on the ETUI website)
- 27-29/06/2016 - SAVE THE DATE - ETUC/ETUI conference 'The New World of Work', Hotel Thon EU, Brussels. (find soon more information on the ETUI website)

Author: Sotiria Theodoropoulou

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The international standardisation arena and the civil society participation stakes: results of the INTERNORM project



International standards are playing an increasingly important role in market governance and often have a direct impact on health, safety and the environment. This Policy Brief presents the main results of the INTERNORM project, which seeks to promote the involvement of civil society, especially the trade unions, in working out such standards.

Recent events

EduDays 2015: can trade union education rekindle workers' commitment to the European project



Against a background of decreasing trust among workers in the European integration project, more than 100 trainers, education experts and trade union representatives attended this year's Education Days to discuss the ETUI's worker education strategies.

[Read more](#)

Authors: Christophe Hauert, Danielle Bütschi, Jean-Christophe Graz, Marc Audétat and Alain Kaufmann

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'Fixing Europe's debt problem'

The ETUI and the Nevin Economic Research Institute (NERI) jointly organised a policy workshop entitled 'Fixing Europe's debt problem' in Dublin on 25-26 November 2015. A select group of policy advisers, researchers and academics reflected over the two days on how European economies can grow out of the public debt burden that has been accumulated in the years since the beginning of the crisis in 2008. Several dimensions were covered, including European economic governance reforms, debt management strategies, public investment and structural reforms. There were two keynote speeches, one by Patrick Honohan, the outgoing central bank governor of Ireland on his final public engagement in that capacity, and the other by Xavier Timbeau of the OFCE.

New issue of *Transfer* on key challenges for the trade union movement

The November issue of *Transfer*, the research quarterly of the ETUI's research department, contains four articles all dealing with challenges and dilemmas that are at the core of the academic debate on trade unions as well as at the heart of the debate within the trade union movement.

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New jobs in Europe: quality gone AWOL

The 'knowledge society', states Ursula Holtgrewe in a recent volume on growth sectors in Europe, is failing to get rid of 'hard work',. At a public presentation of the book on 17 November at the ETUI, the sociologist, from Johannes Kepler University, Linz (Austria), showed that the EU was struggling to get 'quality' and 'quantity' into line.

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Training

Organising workers reps in multinational companies



This ETUI training course was held in Skopje, FYRO Macedonia on 4-6 November 2015, in partnership with SSM and ÖGB. The participants had the opportunity to exchange their experiences in organising workers and to analyse the challenges in a multinational context. The second day of the training was dedicated to the design and execution of street actions in the centre of Skopje.

Other activities

- On 17 November, Fabienne Scandella, senior researcher in the Working conditions, health and safety unit, attended the conference on 'Well-being and performance: academics meets practitioners' organised in Brussels by the University of Ghent, the Belgian Training Institute of the Federal Administration, and HR PUBLIC. She gave a presentation on psychosocial risks in Europe to an assembly of 140 human resources managers.
- Jan Drahokoupil, ETUI senior researcher, gave a lecture tour at universities and research institutes in the Guangdong region, China. In particular, he was invited to share European experience with industrial relations and foreign direct investment at Jinan and Sun Yat-sen

In the media

- 4/12/2015 - [The end of the one-person-one-car economy raises a number of questions](#), LSE Business Review.
- 4/12/2015 - [Interview with Martin Myant](#) on wages and collective bargaining on Czech television, on the occasion of a debate in the Czech Senate (from min. 34:50 to 39:46, only in Czech).
- 2/12/2015 - Ecologique et Social? C'est possible, Charlie Hebdo, review of [Towards a social-ecological transition. Solidarity in the age of environmental challenge](#) by Éloi Laurent (OFCE) and Philippe Pochet (ETUI).
- 30/11/2015 - [La voiture à l'heure de l'économie collaborative](#), AlterEcoplus.
- 28/11/2015 - [Droit social européen : dessous alarmants de la simplification](#), Metis-Europe.
- 27/11/2015 - [Suomi on lakkoäkyränä keskiverto – Ruotsi Euroopan kilteimpiä](#), Yle Uutiset.
- 26/11/2015 - [Cancers professionnels : un expert met l'UE devant ses responsabilités](#), Euroqip infos.
- [25/11/2015 - One Person, One Car? The Digital Revolution's Platform Economy](#), Social Europe Journal.
- 18/11/2015 - [Public sector is focus of industrial action](#), EuroFound.
- 16/11/2015 - [ETUI Policy Brief: The 'variable geometry' approach to 'better legislation'](#), EUCIS-LLL
- 12/11/2015 - [L'esplosione sociale della Grecia ha avuto inizio](#), L'Antidiplomatico.
- 12/11/2015 - [Greece Comes to a Standstill as Unions Turn Against Tsipras](#), Bloomberg.
- 9/11/2015 - [European Works Councils: Towards A Common Standard?](#), Social Europe Journal.
- 1/11/2015 - Wiens wegdeemsterend draagvlak?, Gids op maatschappelijk gebied.
- 1/11/2015 - Report sets goal of no occupational cancer, Safety Rep, no. 191 (a Labour Research Department publication).

universities in Guangzhou, Guangzhou Forum on Economic Transformations, and Ma Hong Foundation in Shenzhen. Jan also took part in a meeting with the leadership of the Guangdong Federation of Trade Unions that was organised by the Chair of Industrial Relations and Social Development at the Sun Yat-sen University.

- Martin Myant, Head of Unit Economic, employment and social policies at the ETUI, published an OSE Paper Series (Briefing Paper No. 11) '[TTIP: what it will mean for us and what is the alternative?](#)'. In this paper he describes why the negotiating parties want a Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP), what the agreement will contain, and what trade liberalisation may lead to.
- Sotiria Theodoropoulou, ETUI senior researcher, will participate in the closing panel of the ILO/EC International Seminar 'Inventory of labour market policy measures in the EU 2008-2013: The crisis and beyond' on 9 December 2015 in Brussels, Belgium. On 26 November 2015, she gave, at the ETUI-NERI workshop '[Fixing Europe's debt problem](#)' in Dublin, a talk entitled 'What structural reforms for long-term Growth?'.

- Laurent Vogel, senior researcher, delivered a presentation on European legislation and prevention of occupational cancers at an [International Conference on Regulation, Change and the Work Environment](#) held on 30 November-2 December at the University of Ottawa.
- Maria Jepsen, Director of the ETUI Research department, took part in the first [Annual Vision Europe Summit "Welfare state – Problem or solution?"](#) held on 17-18 November 2015 in Berlin. She participated in the panel discussion: *The political economy of welfare state reforms – ways towards the implementation of round table suggestions*.
- The European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA) held the Healthy Workplaces 2015 Summit in Bilbao on 3-4 November. ETUI senior researchers Viktor Kempa and Aida Ponce Del Castillo took part in the debates focused on strategies for managing psychosocial risks in the workplace. [Read more](#)

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