ETUI Learning approach
ETUI Education offers a motivational and distinctive European Trade Union (TU) training programme in a multicultural setting that is affordable, accessible and delivered flexibly.

We provide high quality training on key competences, skills and knowledge to European Trade Union members and officers in a transnational setting, that is easy to access and focused on strengthening and expanding the sense of belonging to a community.

Our training activities and accredited learning pathways make an indispensable contribution to supporting, reinforcing and stimulating the European trade union movement and its identity.

Our systematic and comprehensive training offers trainees a space that enhances union values by being a place of free thought and expression.

The European Trade Union Institute (ETUI) is the independent research and training centre of the European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC). Trade union education is an important part of the ETUI’s activities. The Education department is staffed by highly-qualified European education officers.

We deal with labour-related subjects with a European dimension. Our training activities are guided by the ETUC’s political priorities and values. The contents of our training activities are political, technical and operational, corresponding to the clear and concrete needs of ETUC affiliates.
Our Approach

We offer face-to-face training actions and online activities spanning different kinds of learner profiles. We also offer more long-term learning itineraries.

The pedagogy we practice is centered on learners. It builds on the experience of adult participants through joint reflection, the sharing of practices and critical thinking.

We have a social constructivist approach - knowledge being a social construct that includes group work and the personal and social context, which is fundamental for skills acquisition. Participants’ motivations and expectations play a necessary and important role. It is the combination of this wide-ranging knowledge and know-how, experienced and applied, finalised and put into context, which allows participants to go on to deploy and implement them in practice.

The skills acquired are the result of the right blend of knowledge, attitudes and values, which enable every learner to apply them in different contexts. For us, training is a space for collective intelligence and learning is a path towards action.

In the design and delivery of our activities, our trainers’ teams always keep in mind our learner-centered and action-oriented approach. We operate in transnational multicultural environments, where respect for diversity is a guiding principle. Diversity offers multiple opportunities for self-development and group reinforcement.

One of our biggest strengths is that we work with the ETUI’s research department and also with our networks and communities of practice of trade union and academic professionals, international organisations and universities.
Constantly improving the quality of what we do is one of our main objectives. In all of our training events we have an end-of-course evaluation and the feedback we get is very positive. Participants point to the usefulness of our training actions, and also the added value of the contents we deliver and the materials we provide.

We offer opportunities for networking and spaces for exchange. We aim to be an inspiration to all players in our training activities.

We are also working towards a quality management system, which will be a tool for managing and monitoring our training activities.

The training of Eurotrainers and the Young trade union leaders’ courses are accredited learning pathways. The Eurotrainers programme is a long-term learning itinerary, which stands out as an important training programme and unique in its essence at the European level. It is accredited by a higher education institution (University of Lille, France) and transferable within the European Qualifications Framework (EQF) to level 6.

The Young Trade union leaders’ course is also accredited by the Edinburgh College and awarded an accreditation equivalent to level 3 in the EQF.
We want ETUI Education to be a place for exchange of pedagogical experiences.

We want to enlarge our network of European trade union trainers.

We want to keep on innovating and to further develop and improve our training offer at the European level.