Editorial

The work of the ETUI as you know it would not be the same if our researchers and trainers could not rely on a broad range of thematic and non-thematic academic, experts and trainers’ networks. They assist in compiling information and developing lines of argument in areas that are relevant for European trade unions and they help us cover all EU member states on these topics. Researchers, experts and trainers, both internal and external, regularly participate in conferences, forums and workshops. They maintain regular contact with the European institutions and provide in-depth expertise to the ETUC. Examples of such networks are the Trade Union related Research Institutes (TURI) network, the research network on workers’ participation in Europe (WPEurope), the Transnational Trade Union Rights Experts Network (TTUR), and the research network on Corporate Governance (GOODCORP).

The ETUI also regularly participates in European and international projects. On 25-27 October the CRIMT-SSHRC Partnership Project meeting on Institutional Experimentation for Better (or Worse) Work of which the ETUI is also a partner took place. The project seeks to build knowledge and understanding of how to make work better. It focuses on actors in the world of work who engage in social experimentation and on whether that experimentation leads to work being better or worse.

The ETUI is also an associated partner of the Economic Policies for the Global transition (EPOG+) which is an Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degree in economics, supported by the European Union. It offers an integrated Master’s programme on the (digital, socioeconomic, ecological) transition processes with a pluralist approach and interdisciplinary perspectives and involves more than 40 partners and associate partners in Europe and the world. The ETUI’s input allows the linkage of several themes that are treated within the EPOG+ programme: the analysis of economic crisis and socioeconomic transition, sustainable development, industrial policy and digital transition, labour market analysis and the future of the EU.

The ETUI is member of the Advisory Board of InGRID which is a network of distributed but integrating European research infrastructures. InGRID research infrastructures serve the social sciences community that wants to make an evidence-based contribution to a European policy strategy of inclusive growth. As a member of the Stakeholder Advisory Platform we also support the project EUSOCIALCIT whose overarching objective is to provide scientific analysis and examine alternative policy scenarios that support the European Union’s aim of strengthening EU social citizenship. Last but not least, the ETUI is an associated partner of SODITREC - a research project aimed at providing a more comprehensive analysis of company-level social dialogue in the European Union. The scientific results of the project will serve for orientation of EU policymaking and legislation in the field of industrial relations.

Philippe Pochet, General director ETUI
The Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union and the Employment Relation

Following on from previous volumes setting out links between European labour law and fundamental social rights (as enshrined in relevant UN, ILO and Council of Europe instruments), in this book the ETUI Transnational Trade Union Rights (TTUR) Expert Network examines the justiciability of social rights and critically analyses the effectiveness of those rights embodied in the EU Charter.

Why aren’t there more European Works Councils? A Belgian perspective

This policy brief considers the lack of European Works Councils through a Belgian perspective. It discusses Belgian companies who are currently engaged in establishing one or have developed ‘functionally equivalent’ structures.

SEER: Are the western Balkans ready for EU accession?

This year’s first issue of the SEER Journal for Labour and Social Affairs in Eastern Europe considers the readiness of western Balkan countries for EU accession. The EU has committed to supporting the gradual integration of the western Balkan countries into the Union.

Recent events
Bridging the divide between climate science and public acceptance

In late August, the coordinator of the Belgian environmental association Arbeid & Milieu contacted the ETUI, to ask whether we could co-organise a lecture by the renown Canadian climate scientist Katharine Hayhoe. Nobody could imagine that it would attract an audience of more than 200 people. Katharine Hayhoe is the director of the Climate Science Center at Texas Tech University and lead author for the Second, Third, and Fourth U.S. National Climate Assessments.

Why and how the US, China and the EU should abandon economic growth

In the ten years since the final report of the (Stiglitz) Commission on the Measurement of Economic Performance and Social Progress, we have witnessed the publication of hundreds of reports and indicators on the subject. But according to Eloi Laurent, who spoke at the ETUI Monthly Forum on 17 October, there are now two imperative issues.

Democratising the economy: a solution for inequality, the concentration of wealth and climate change

What is the common cause of escalating inequalities, the concentration of capital ownership and climate damage – the three major problems we are facing today? According to Ewan McGaughey, Senior Lecturer at King's College London, it is the fact that votes in the economy (on company management and investment, etc.) are controlled by banks and asset managers.

Save the date

29/11/2019: Monthly forum: Gender equality at home and at work. The role of the European Charter of Fundamental Rights
Training

When women lead on things that matter, change will happen

ETUI Education’s recent training course ‘Leadership and capacity-building for women trade unionists’ held in Oostende (BE) from 17 to 19 September 2019 aimed at encouraging women to step up and take leadership roles in their organisations.

Call for contributions to the special issue of Transfer

Theme: Industrial relations and inequality: The many facets of a crucial relationship, edited by Roberto Pedersini and Lisa Dorigatti

Proposals for contributions including long abstracts of 1,500 words should be sent to the Managing Editor of Transfer Marina Luttrell (mluttrell@etui.org) before 1 December 2019. Full manuscripts will be due by 31 March 2020.

If you wish to receive invitations for ETUI events, please register here.
In the media

- Le Monde Diplomatique ES, Democracia real en el trabajo como respuesta a la crisis democrática, (Nov 2019)
- Social Europe, Social Europe and the European Commission Philippe Pochet, (22 Oct 2019)
- Futuribles, L'espoir de politique sociale européenne n'est pas perdu (21 Oct 2019)
- The Financial Times, Europeans have double standards on transatlantic trade, (21 Oct 2019)
- Le Soir, Les conditions de travail dans les secteurs féminins se sont déteriorées plus vite, (16 Oct 2019)
- Le carnet du Mouvement social, Notes de lectures (12 Oct 2019)
- Bockler Impuls, Digitalisierung braucht Mitbestimmung (10 Oct 2019)
- Sindicato de periodistas de Madrid, Ser mujer y periodista en la union Europea, (8 Oct 2019)
- LSE, How companies organise jobs may go a long way towards alleviating employees’ commuting hell, (Oct 2019)
- WK RH, Certaines plateformes pratiquent l'évasion sociale (3 Sept 2019)

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We would like to keep in touch with you. To update your preferences regarding the information you would like to receive from the ETUI please click here

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