

Editorial

The long-awaited proposal for a directive on adequate minimum wages in the European Union was finally published last Wednesday. While it is undoubtedly an important step in the right direction it is not the silver bullet which will deliver fair wages for all workers in the EU. The way to reach fair pay is more complicated and will require further improvements of the directive for which trade unions will continue to fight. However, the proposal highlights what the trade unions see as a crucial condition for higher wages - collective bargaining coverage. Article 4 requires from member states to "take action to promote the capacity of social partners to engage in collective bargaining on wage setting, and to encourage constructive, meaningful and informed negotiations on wages". What is more, it stipulates that member states where collective bargaining coverage does not reach 70% of the workers should come up with "a framework for collective bargaining and establish an action plan to promote collective bargaining". In practice this provision applies to at least 15 out of the 27 EU member states according to the 2019 ETUI's Benchmarking Working Europe report - our yearly publication giving an overview on the state of Social Europe. [Read the full editorial here](#)

Publications

Reform and oversight mechanisms are not enough

This paper argues that trade unions in Central Eastern European Countries (CEECs) should focus not only on improving formal legislation and its application but also on how the courts are interpreting this formal legislation by engaging in strategic litigation with the aim of fostering a pro-worker understanding of legal interpretations.

[Read more](#)

A socially just transition through the European Green Deal?

The aim of this working paper is to provide a preliminary assessment of whether the European Green Deal constitutes a suitable policy framework to combine environmental and economic objectives with the pursuit of social fairness, thus ensuring a just transition towards more sustainable economies and societies.

[Read more](#)

An overview of the 2020-2021 country-specific recommendations (CSRs) in the social

Gender, working conditions and health
What has changed?
In Europe, despite equal

Pensions in the age of Covid-19
Recent changes and future challenges
Pension policy is not safe

field

In 2020, country-specific recommendations (CSRs) have shifted more markedly in favour of strengthening workers' digital skills and providing adequate social protection. This change of focus has conferred a rather social outlook to the 2020 European Semester cycle.

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treatment laws that mainly concern wages and non-discrimination between individuals, the gendered division of labour is still present: men and women do not work in the same professions and, when they work in similar occupations, their work activity, work experience, opportunities for professional promotion and remuneration are not the same.

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from the potentially dramatic consequences of the pandemic. But in terms of pension politics, the pandemic also represents a window of opportunity to rethink the political debate on the future reform agenda.

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Le travail ? l'IA - pourquoi la réglementation est nécessaire pour protéger les travailleurs

Les grandes puissances du monde, de nombreux États et des entreprises se battent pour gagner la course à l'intelligence artificielle (IA). L'IA est d'une importance stratégique pour l'Union européenne, la Commission européenne ayant récemment déclaré que "l'intelligence artificielle est un objectif qui peut faire de l'Europe un leader technologique mondial".

[Plus d'info](#)

The why and how of working time reduction

This guide mapping the discussion on working time reduction by examining the recent trends, the different reasons for implementing such a reduction, and the ways in which it can be organised, is now also available in Polish and Czech languages.

[Download here the various language versions](#)

EU-western Balkans relations at the time of the Covid-19 crisis

This issue of the SEER Journal for Labour and Social Affairs in Eastern Europe for 2020 focuses on EU-western Balkans relations at the time of the Covid-19 pandemic, with a particular insights to the policy approaches in Croatia and Turkey.

[Read more](#)

Education



The practice of green competences

The ETUI Education Department announced in the ongoing Work Programme the adoption of a green competence framework approach to guide trade union training on climate change and sustainable development. Following this decision ETUI Education organized on 14 September a webinar entitled "The Practice of Green Competences". This webinar aimed to share trade union's projects or initiatives on green competences gained at the European, national or sectoral levels.

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(Online) events

16/11: [New beginnings? The European Pillar of Social Rights and the new Commission](#)

2/12: Launch of Benchmarking 2020 (more information will follow soon)

etui.podcast - voices on the world of work



The podcast offers new perspectives on ongoing research and education on social Europe, worker participation, health and safety, the wider labour movement and the world of work.

Season 2

- #1 with Nicola Countouris, [Covid-19 and the world of work: an overview](#)
- read also the related news here [The added value of research to the trade union movement](#)

Media

- Svergie Radio, [Ekonomiekot - minimil?n](#) (29 Oct 2020)
- SRF Radio, [Grosse Unterschiede beim Mindestlohn innerhalb der EU](#) (28 Oct 2020)
- Politico, [On the job but unprotected ? why European welfare is failing gig workers](#) (23 Oct 2020)
- HR.square, [Sociale dialoog: tijd voor experimenten ? la hansenne?](#) (20 Oct 2020)
- Minerva progressive denk tank, [Krijgen we straks een Europees minimumloon?](#) (16 Oct 2020)
- Arbejdere, [Bl?ser der nye vinde i EU?](#) (15 Oct 2020)
- De Specialist, [30-urenweek zonder loonverlies: vlottere combinatie werk-gezin-vrije tijd \(Femma\)](#) (15 Oct 2020)
- Weekend Knack, [Femma onthult resultaten van een jaar 30 uur per week werken](#) (15 Oct 2020)
- Alternatives Economiques, [Ailleurs qu'en France, la r?duction du temps de travail n'est pas un tabou](#) (14 Oct 2020)
- ESPRIT, [La d?mocratie ? l??preuve de l??pid?mie](#) (13 Oct 2020)
- Sverige Radio, [Nyheter fr?n Ekot](#) (08 Oct 2020)
- Politico, [Brussels? push for better minimum wages faces uphill struggle](#) (06 Oct 2020)
- brand eins, [Uber drivers from all countries, unite!](#) (01 Oct 2020)

- CHeMycal, [The Netherlands sets a much higher occupational exposure limit value \(OEL\) for diesel engine exhaust emissions](#) (17 Sept 2020)
- RTBF, [Plusieurs cas de Covid-19 chez AB InBev](#) (08 Sept 2020)

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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](#)

The ETUI is financially supported by the European Union. ETUI, aisbl 2020

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