

Editorial

This year's [Benchmarking Working Europe report](#) – the joint flagship publication of the ETUI and ETUC – is a special edition, not only because it is the 20th anniversary edition, but also because it analyses the consequences of a new and totally different crisis for the world of work. And the main message coming out of this analysis is that we need to be very vigilant to protect workers, and Europe as whole, not only from the SARS-CoV-2 virus but also from austerity.

It must indeed be acknowledged that policymakers seem to be approaching this new challenge in a different way than the austerity-driven responses deployed a decade ago in the management of the 'Great Recession' of 2008. There is a high expectation that rather than instigating a descent into years of recession, this crisis may in fact be an opportunity for a substantial rethinking of the economic and social paradigms that are to guide the EU in the post-Covid world. There are some key signs that things could be moving in this direction, not least the willingness of the EU and national leaders to bail out not only the banks and financial institutions, as was mainly the case in 2008-13, but also the real economy, with instruments such as the 'Support mitigating unemployment risks in an emergency' (SURE) programme, followed by the much more substantial Recovery and Resilience Plan. What is also important is that these rescue packages do not, so far, come with any explicit (anti-)social strings attached – the EU even allowed the Member States to deviate from the Union's usual budgetary rules via an escape clause in the Stability and Growth Pact. And last but not least, this time trade unions are not being side-lined from the planning stages of the recovery strategy and could in fact play a role in its implementation. [Read the full editorial here](#)

Philippe Pochet, General Director ETUI

Publications



Benchmarking Working Europe 2020

A virus is haunting Europe. And it could strike again. This year's 20th anniversary issue of our flagship publication Benchmarking Working Europe brings to a growing audience of trade unionists,



HesaMag #22: Occupational health in the courts

With 180 000 work-related deaths every year in the European Union and more than 2.5 million worldwide, occupational health is a crucial issue for workers and trade unions. Knowing that, somewhere in the

industrial relations specialists and policymakers a simple warning: beside SARS-CoV-2, the virus that has caused the Covid-19 pandemic and thrown Europe's economies into a sudden and profound recession, 'austerity' is the other nefarious agent from which workers, and Europe as a whole, need to be protected in the challenging months and years ahead.

[Read more](#)

world, a worker dies every 11 seconds because of a lack of proper prevention, you might wonder whether there is any point in campaigning for more employment or better wages if these jobs end up taking workers' lives. And in more than nine out of ten cases, these deaths are largely invisible, because they result from occupational diseases rather than accidents.

[Read more](#)

After the 'Hairdressing agreement', the EPSU case

In the coming months, the European Court of Justice (ECJ) will reach a decision on the case European Public Service Union (EPSU) and Goudriaan v Commission (C-928/19 P), which could be crucial for the future of the EU social dialogue. The EPSU case initially originated from the Commission's refusal to transmit a proposal for a Council Decision, which could have given legislative implementation to the social partners' agreement stipulated by TUNED and EUPAE.

[Read more](#)

Fair corporate taxation

This policy brief describes the need for the sensible coordination of corporate income tax rules at international level, in particular in the context of digitalisation. In the same way that the manufacture of goods and services is fragmented along global value chains to reduce costs, corporate profits also transit through several countries in order to reduce multinationals' tax bills. This fragmentation of company groups has a detrimental impact on productive investment, on workers' involvement in management's decisions and on collective bargaining for a fair share of the wealth.

[Read more](#)

Transfer volume 26 number 4 - Open Issue

This new number of the 'open' issue of Transfer contains five articles alongside a sixth, launching a new section of this fourth annual issue of Transfer, entitled 'EU Policy Debate'. The five articles cover the developments in the industrial relations systems of several European countries, with common features in terms of their analysis.

[Read more](#)

Education



ONLINE WORKSHOP
ON ACTIVE LEARNING
METHODS ETUI
IMPLEMENTATION
1 FEBRUARY - 4 MARCH 2021
12-18 HOURS (ETUI)

etui.

Active learning is going online !

In today's world of work, trainers keep on finding better approaches to apply innovation to reshape and progress traditional learning models, achieving personal development and success in practically every training room. Today, a significant number of the most recent pedagogical advances plan to amplify the viability of time in the training room, allowing trainers to focus on supporting learners' individual needs. Most of these new advances use technology to promote a blend of innovative training

strategies, including active learning, collaborative projects, experiential learning, and traditional direct instruction.

[Read more](#)

Vacancies and calls for application

- [Vacancy IT support engineer](#) - deadline 10 January 2021
- [Call for applications for the Grigor Gradev Scholarship 2021](#) - deadline 28 January 2021

(Online) events

(For technical reasons, please always register with your personalised link which you have received in the event invitation from the ETUI)

12/01: SAVE THE DATE The EU facing the pandemic: from crisis to collective action, OSE & ETUI joint webinar launching "Social policy in the European Union: state of play 2020".

19/01: [Trade union strategies to organise migrant workers in Europe](#)

3-5/02: [ETUI/ETUC conference: towards a new socio-ecological contract](#)

24-25/02: [Strategic aspects of occupational safety and health litigation](#)

If you have missed our past webinars, please click on the links below to find more information and/or watch the recording:

15/12: [Reviving economic democracy in Greece in the context of the Covid crisis](#)

10/12: [Covid-19 and the world of work: the impact of a pandemic - Launch of the ETUI/ETUC Benchmarking Working Europe 2020 report](#)

17-24/11: [Balkan countries and Baltic states regional forums](#)

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

etui.podcast - voices on the world of work

- #3 with Sotiria Theodoropoulou, [European economic policy developments during Covid-19](#)
- #2 with Paula Franklin, [How Covid-19 has impacted workers in the healthcare sector](#)

Media

- Social Europe, [Gig-life balance?](#) (1 Dec 2020)
- Social Europe, [A better world with more democracy at work](#) (23 Nov 2020)
- Santé et travail, [L'hôpital favorise les risques psychosociaux](#), (17 Nov 2020)
- De Tijd, [Het sociaal overleg op bedrijfsniveau kan better](#) (15 Nov 2020)
- Digital Future Society, [Platform work, a booming economy of unknown scale](#) (9 Nov 2020)
- Social Europe, [Minimum-wage directive: yes, but ...](#) (10 Nov 2020)
- Yes! Magazine, [How Norway built an economy that puts people first](#), (3 Nov 2020)
- Brussels Times, [It's time we cared for those who care for us](#) (2 Nov 2020)

Koning Albert II Laan 5
Boulevard du Roi Albert II, 5
Brussels, 1210
Belgium


