

#78 - October 2021

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## Editorial

We might be living in a historical moment. The European Commission is about to launch a proposal for an EU directive on Digital Platform Workers with the aim of improving the working conditions of people working in the platform economy. The juridical war that trade unions across Europe have been fighting for many years is now being translated into policies, as announced by President Ursula von der Leyen in September 2020. It seems that after having successfully challenged platform companies in European courts, trade unions are also winning the battle of ideas. Only two years ago, it was unthinkable that platform companies like Uber and Deliveroo would have to treat their workers according to the same rules as regular businesses. However, we are not there yet and the work for trade unions in this area is only starting. They will need to adapt to those “new business models” which are here to stay, make sure that the interpretation of “employment relationship” is not too narrow and finally, that an enforcement mechanism is foreseen in the new legislation. [Read the full editorial here](#)

Philippe Pochet, General Director ETUI

## COP26

Watch [here](#) 7 one minute ETUI videos on the occasion of COP26 on various aspects of the social implications of climate change, and find [here](#) a selection of ETUI publication on related issues.

## Publications

## Patterns in global value chains

This paper provides empirical evidence on the relationship between patterns of integration in global value chains (GVCs), the ‘quality’ of such integration in terms of technological capabilities and the structure of employment in European countries and sectors.

[See more](#)

## A modern guide to labour and the platform economy

Providing an insightful analysis of the key issues and significant trends relating to labour within the platform economy, this Modern Guide considers the existing comparative evidence covering all world regions.

[See more](#)

## Social protection of non-standard workers and the self-employed during the pandemic

Country chapters: Belgium, France, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Portugal, Romania, Sweden

[See more](#)

## Education



## EduDays 2021 - Building the new normality

Significant changes in training and learning have been amplified as a result of Covid-19. This major shift concerned us all. We experienced, at the national and European levels, new forms of training and learning. Our organisations have been forced to reconsider skills development, both for trainers and learners. Provided that our learning approach - active and learner’s centred - will not change, we are here to build the “new normality”. There’s a common need to reflect on what happened since 2020 before looking to the future with awareness and plans.

[Read more](#)

## Connecting contemporary art to our futures

In a world that changes in a fast pace, thinking strategically becomes a primary skill for trade unions in order to strengthen their vision, build their own strategies, and make their own futures. In the framework of the ETUI foresight and education activities, a second edition of the training called Strategic foresight for trade unions leaders took place in November 2021. The aim was to strengthen the leaders’ competences in thinking strategically and help them build foresight competencies. This activity was organised in partnership with the TCO (Sweden) and TSL (Finland).

[Read more](#)

## Events

15/11: [Ecocide: a new path to address environmental abuse?](#)

19/11: [The future of \(remote\) work after Covid-19](#)

**Save the date** 3/12: Launch of Benchmarking Working Europe 2021  
(more information to appear soon on the ETUI website)

13-14/12: [Annual OSH conference 2021](#)

Watch here the recording of this conference in case you have missed it:

28-29/10: [Labour rights & the digital transition](#)

## Media

- Open Access Government, [Working from home: The legal framework](#) (8 Nov 2021)
- Agence Europe, [Recovery of hours worked in EU will be slower than employment, according to European Trade Union Institute](#) (04 Nov 2021)
- Agence Europe, [Le rétablissement des heures travaillées dans l'UE sera plus lent que celui de l'emploi, selon l'Institut syndical européen](#) (03 Nov 2021)
- El País, [Frustración y depresión al volver a la oficina](#) (13 Oct 2021)
- Népszava, [Irány az 55. százalék?](#) (5 Oct 2021)
- Cfdt Cadres, [Insaisissable Europe Sociale](#) (Oct 2021)

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