

#93 - March 2023

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Editorial

This year the ETUI returned to an old tradition: the publication of its annual flagship report [Benchmarking Working Europe](#) for the Spring European Council. The main message of the 2023 report is that in order to deal with the many transitions currently taking place (both the green and digital transitions, but also an economic policy transition and a geopolitical transition) and to break the current cycle of crisis after crisis, we need a transformative and ambitious *social transition*. This is the missing link which needs to be established if we wish to institutionalise what the publication refers to as a project of ‘sustainable resilience’, centred around social dialogue and collective bargaining. However, together the report’s chapters demonstrate that the EU is unfortunately a long way from this vision. The ETUI researchers who have contributed to this volume have taken pains to identify some of Europe’s social fragilities while also clearly contextualising these fragilities within the current challenges faced by the EU. This report is thus primed to serve as an important guide to anyone working to assist this social transition. [Read more](#)

Philippe Pochet, General Director ETUI

Publications

Benchmarking Working Europe 2023

The central questions and main contextual background explored by this year's issue of Benchmarking are, at their core, fairly straightforward. Europe is at a crossroads, painfully navigating four transitions at once: a (perhaps less than obvious) economic policy transition best exemplified by the debates surrounding the EU economic governance framework (COM(2022) 583 final); a geopolitical transition, increasingly shaped by the 'open strategic autonomy' debate (Akgüç 2021) and, of course, by the Russian war of aggression on Ukraine; and the two more readily acknowledged green and digital transitions.

[Read more](#)

The curious non-advent of codetermination in Belgium: a focus on the Christian trade union

Belgium is one of the few EU-15 countries with no system of involving employee representatives in the strategic management of a company. The post-second World War social pact created extensive institutions for information, consultation and collective bargaining at the company, sector and country level but did not envisage, for example, employees on company boards.

[Read more](#)

Minimum wage developments in 2022

Despite substantial minimum wage increases, in almost half of the Member States with a statutory minimum wage, these were not sufficient to safeguard the purchasing power of minimum-wage earners in the current cost-of-living crisis. In order to better mitigate the negative effects of high inflation on the lives of workers and their families, Member States should take the following measures: Timely transposition of the European Minimum Wage Directive into national law to promote adequate minimum wages and adequate collective bargaining coverage as two important tools to deal with the cost-of-living crisis.

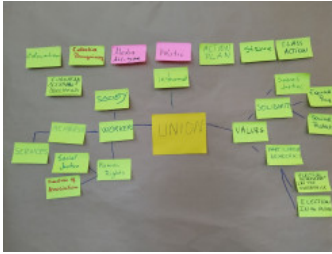
[Read more](#)

An untapped resource for trade unions

A critical mass of trade union members, i.e. beyond union activists, are willing to perform less-demanding tasks in support of their union; this is an internal union resource that is currently underutilised. As union tasks differ in terms of effort and time, they should be tested beforehand to estimate which kinds appeal to which categories of members.

[Read more](#)

Education



Trade union actions for a democratic society

Combatting far right and right-wing populism at the workplace requires a multi-faceted approach that involves education, open communication, and a commitment to promote inclusivity and diversity. In this sense, more than a year ago we started developing the training program called: Building trade union responses to combat far-right.

[Read more](#)

etui.podcast

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 4

- Podcast #4 with Philippe Pochet & Béla Galgóczi: [What are eco-social policies?](#)

Events

Register now for:

4/04: [On the way to electromobility – a green\(er\) but more unequal future?](#)

27/04: [Why we need a reform of the EU electricity market and how can we make it more socially just? ETUI lunch event](#)

15-17/05: [Beyond growth 2023 conference](#)

Watch here the recordings of these past events in case you have missed them, or check out the presentations:

20/03: [Europe in transition – towards sustainable resilience](#)
[Launch of the ETUI/ETUC Benchmarking Working Europe 2023 report](#)

28/03: [Are multinational companies good for trade unions? ETUI webinar](#)

Tenders & Vacancies

Vacancies:

- [Vacancy ETUI Director Research Department 2023.pdf](#)- deadline 16 April 2023
- [Application for a traineeship at the ETUI.pdf](#) - no deadline

Calls for tender:

- [Tender 2023-04 MOOC final.pdf](#) - deadline 04 April 2023

Media

- Neon Mag - [Un cancer du sein reconnu comme maladie professionnelle, une première qui pourrait faire jurisprudence](#) (28 March 2023)
- Sud Ouest - [Santé : le cancer du sein d'une infirmière de nuit reconnu en maladie professionnelle](#) (27 March 2023)
- EU Law Live - [One step forward, no steps back? The Court of Justice develops further the notions of daily and weekly rest \(C-477/21, MÁV-START\)](#) (21 March 2023)
- Green European Journal - [Migrant Women Face a Double Penalty at Work](#) (8 March 2023)

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