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Editorial

An important and ambitious [new publication](#) from the ETUI presents, in three volumes and a comprehensive index, a study of the development of collective bargaining since 2000 in all 28 EU Member States. Collective bargaining is an issue at the core of the institute's work, as it is an integral part of the European social model and provides essential support for workplace democracy and representation. It has, furthermore, played an important role in the process of European integration and the development of the European single market. However, the neoliberal stance taken by the European Union and most of the Member States since the financial crisis hit (and for some, since long before) has put a lot of pressure on collective bargaining institutions in Europe. They have been seen as a “rigidity” of the labour market that puts a brake on economic growth and competitiveness.

The intervention of the Troika in some of the Member States most heavily damaged by the crisis has left them with a greatly restricted coverage and scope of collective bargaining. Employers, including in western Europe, have in many cases managed to put in place decentralised bargaining arrangements, and wages are becoming increasingly subject to competition. These trends are visible to varying extents in all of the 28 Member States, as the authors of the edited volumes show.

The development of this issue in the coming five years will depend in large part on the new European Commission and, more specifically, on the direction which its newly elected President Ursula von der Leyen and her team will take. In her candidacy speech, Von der Leyen declared that “the optimal option is to have collective bargaining by employers' unions and trade unions because they tailor the minimum wage to the sector or to the region”. The European trade union movement welcomes her general commitments to more social fairness, including a fair minimum wage, but support for collective bargaining and social dialogue at national level – which in many cases needs to be entirely rebuilt – is equally if not even more important.

The ETUI will continue to closely analyse the new and hopefully more positive developments in this domain in the years to come.

Philippe Pochet, General director ETUI

Publications

Collective bargaining in Europe: towards an endgame. Volume I, II, III and IV

This collection of four volumes charts the development of collective bargaining since the year 2000 in the 28 EU Member States.

These four volumes document how the institutions of collective bargaining have been removed, fundamentally altered or markedly narrowed in scope in all 28 EU Member States.

[Read more](#)

Regulating uncertainty: variable work schedules and zero-hour work in EU employment policy

This policy brief considers what is the scope for addressing the challenges linked to irregular work schedules in EU social and employment policy. It first describes EU competence in the areas of work and employment conditions in order to assess what the EU institutions can de jure do to address irregular work schedules.

[Read more](#)

Transfer special issue on changing labour markets and international organisations

The latest issue of Transfer, the European Review of Labour and Research, looks at how international organisations dealing with jobs and employment, such as the ILO, OECD and European Commission, have reassessed their labour market analysis and policy recommendations in recent years.

[Read more](#)

New issue of HesaMag: Working behind bars

This 19th edition of HesaMag, the ETUI magazine on health and safety at work, focuses on working conditions behind bars. To work in prison is to work on the margins of society. To work as a prisoner and to work with prisoners is a very ordinary job in terms of the actual actions and tasks being performed. But the context in which the work is being performed is radically different to the “outside” world. This issue is rarely addressed in occupational health.

[Read more](#)

Recent events



Revolt of the Laborers of Love: Organising Teachers, Journalists and Museum Workers in the U.S.

With the steady disappearance of industrial jobs, more jobs in the service economy and the so-called “knowledge economy” have been created in the U.S. The American freelance journalist Sarah Jaffe, who was invited to speak at an ETUI lunch debate on 9 July, has talked to many teachers, museum workers and fellow journalists in the course of her work.

[Read more](#)

The prison as a microcosm of society

The latest issue of HesaMag, the ETUI’s biannual magazine on health and safety at work, focuses on working conditions behind bars. It is not an obvious topic for HesaMag, as it goes far beyond the medical aspects of occupational health. But the aim of each issue is to focus on occupations and sectors at the margins of society to show how a broader social solidarity can be beneficial for everybody.

[Read more](#)

Workers and chemicals: 15th ETUI seminar

The 15th annual ETUI seminar on chemicals and worker protection took place on 27-28 June 2019. Held in Lisbon in collaboration with the General Confederation of the Portuguese Workers (CGTP), the meeting brought

together more than 40 unionists from 21 European countries. Its aim was to coordinate union action on chemical risks.

[Read more](#)

Save the date

10/09/2019: **ETUI conference:** Climate change policies and social sustainability: a new impetus for Social Europe?

31/10/2019: Save the date: Monthly Forum on Co-determination

Registration open: 3-4/12/2019: The future of health and safety in Europe. 30 years after the EU Framework Directive on health and safety at work, what's the way forward?

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

Training



Training "Young Trade Union Leaders 19/20": registrations open!

Until 23 August you can enroll for the next edition of the ETUI's "European training for Young Trade Union Leaders". The course, the longest and oldest organized by the Institute, offers every year an enriching experience to 25 young unionists from ETUC affiliated organisations. Starting in October, participants will attend 3 course weeks - the second in February and the last in June - with work at distance during the two intermediate periods. Successful participants will receive a certification. The working languages are English and French.

[Further information and contacts are available here](#)

Job vacancies



The ETUI is looking for a Head of Unit of its Communication/Publication joint service

The ETUI is seeking to recruit a full time Head of Unit of its Communication/Publication joint service. She/he should promote and develop the ETUI's image.

The post holder will contribute to the definition of a communications strategy, translate this strategy into operational directives, coordinate activities of the ComPub joint service and identify opportunities for development.

Deadline for applications and supporting documents (CV, evidence of qualifications, etc.): 23 August 2019

[Read here the full vacancy](#)

Calls for tenders



Website Development and Support

The ETUI is procuring a supplier for a Framework Agreement of ETUI's website (www.etui.org) and sub-websites.

Submission deadline: 25 August 2019 17:00

[Read more](#)

In the media

- a4medier, [På tide at finde fælles veje til at sætte arbejdstiden ned](#) (06 Aug 2019)
- Social Europe, [The superiority of codetermination](#) (16 July 2019)
- RTS, [Le journal de 8h \(vers 4'50"\)](#) (09 July 2019)
- Basta!, [Le procès de France Télécom, déjà une victoire contre la banalisation des violences managériales](#) (09 July 2019)
- El Diario, [Un manual para sindicatos de la economía uberizada y robotizada](#) (07 July 2019)
- Regulating for Globalization, [Time to stop platforms from charging recruitment fees to workers](#) (03 July 2019)
- Le Monde, [Partout dans le monde, des acteurs s'organisent pour conformer l'économie de plate-forme au droit social](#) (02 July 2019)

ETUI respects your privacy. We are updating our data protection policies following the GDPR principles and legal requirements. If you wish to know more please contact dataprivacy@etui.org

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