

International Conference

FUTURE OF WORK: A Lifecycle Approach

21-22 March 2018, Sofia, Bulgaria

21 March 2018

12:30 – 14:00 Lunch

14:00 – 14:30 Opening

14:00 – 14:10 Opening Show (4 MAGIC)

14:10 – 14:20 *Mr Tomislav Donchev, Deputy Prime Minister of the Republic of Bulgaria (tbc)*

14:20 – 14:25 *Ms Marianne Thyssen, EU Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs, Skills, and Labour Mobility, European Commission (tbc) (video message)*

14:25 – 14:30 *Mr Guy Ryder, Director-General, International Labour Organization (tbc)(video message)*

14:30 – 15:40 1st Session: The Future of Work and Demographic Challenges
Moderator: Representative of the World Bank

Demographic changes, along with globalization and the advancement of information technologies, are at the heart of shaping a new social reality faced by the societies in Europe. The share of elderly increased and the share of children and young people decreased. Ageing population directly affects the functioning and financial stability of important social systems such as the labour market, the pension system, the healthcare system, the social care and the education. This confirms the need to develop comprehensive measures to adapt the public sector to the processes of ageing and to provide better conditions for inclusion of the adult population in the public and the economic life.

Presentation

14:30 – 14:40 *Ms Sukti Dasgupta, Chief Employment and Labour Market Policies Branch, ILO*

Presentation

14:40 – 14:50 *Representative of European Social Cohesion Platform, Council of Europe*

- Presentation**
14:50 – 15:00 *Dr Christa Sedlatschek, Director, European Agency for Safety and Health at Work*
- A socially sustainable concept for raising living standards, boosting growth and employment**
15:00 – 15:10 *Ms Giulia Barbucci, European Economic and Social Committee*
- Interactive session – discussants from:**
15:10 – 15:40
- Employers’ organizations at EU level (tbc)
 - Trade Unions’ organizations at EU level (tbc)
 - Representative of France, (tbc)
 - Representative of Latvia (tbc)
- Q&A
- 15:40 – 16:10** Coffee break
- 16:10 – 17:30 2nd Session: Development of Practical Knowledge and Skills From an Early Age**
Moderator: Zornitsa Rousinova, Deputy Minister of Labour and Social Policy of the Republic of Bulgaria
- The main purpose of the panel is to put forward the discussion on the importance of early childhood development (ECD) policies for better education, labour and social realisation. ECD policies and services are among the most important tools for prevention of child poverty and intergenerational transmission of poverty and exclusion. Investments in early childhood measures prevent future investments in overcoming the consequences of poverty related to lack of education, skills and employment, etc. Therefore the panel will explore areas such as development of practical knowledge and skills from an early age, promoting a work-life balance, access to child care and access to social protection for parents with little children, access to early education. The role and impact of early childhood development programmes is supported by a number of international research and studies, with different expressions: social, economic, health and educational.*
- 16:10 – 16:20 Presentation on social and emotional skills**
World Bank
- 16:20 – 16:30 Sharing of Bulgaria's experience in the field of early childhood development**
- 16:30 – 16:40 Presentation**
Ms Jana Hainsworth, Secretary General, Eurochild
- 16:40 – 16:50 Presentation**
UNICEF
- 16:50 – 17:30 Interactive session – discussants from:**
- Ms Eva Maydell, Member of the European Parliament (tbc)
 - Mr Rait KUUSE, SPC Vice – Chair, European Commission

- Representative of National Network for Children (tbc)
- Representative of Hungary (tbc)

Q&A

20:00 – 22:00

Official dinner

22 March 2018

09:00 – 10:30 3rd Session: Right Skills for New Jobs and the Impact of Digitalization and Automation on the Labour market

Moderator: DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion (tbc)

Globalization and new technologies are causing cardinal changes in labour and the demand of skilled labour force. These changes need better policies planning aimed at creating sustainable and quality jobs for decent employment. Identifying the right skills that meet the needs of employers and anticipating their development in the future is the first step for effective planning of social policies including in field of education, training and employment. The implementation of innovative policy approaches and the better link between the skills of the labour force and the labour market needs are key factors in promoting productive and quality employment and enhancing the economic activity of the population. The key question is: How to improve education and training policies based on a life-cycle approach in order to better match the new skills needed in the labour market and to ensure longer working life.

Skills and Jobs Tendencies on EU level

09:00 – 09:10 *Ms Stelina Chatzichristou, Expert Department for Skills and Labour Market, CEDEFOP*

Impact of Digitalization on the Labour market

09:10 – 09:20 *Representative of the European Commission*

Future of work – acquiring of appropriate knowledge and skills to meet the needs of the future jobs

09:20 – 09:30 *Ms Cinzia Del Rio, Ms Milena Angelova, European Economic and Social Committee*

Better matching of the skills of job-seekers with the needs of employers

09:30 – 09:40 *Mr Fons Leroy, Chair of the European Network of Public Employment Services (PES Network)*

Interactive session – *discussants from:* Employers' organizations at national level (tbc)

09:40 – 10:20

- Employers' organizations at national level (tbc)
- Trade Unions' organizations at national level (tbc)
- Adecco Group AG (tbc)
- Danish experience
- Austria (tbc)

Q&A

10:20 – 10:50 Coffee break

10:50 – 12:30 4th Session: New Forms of Work: Fair Working Conditions and Adequate Social Protection

Moderator: Mr Janine Berg, Senior Economist, ILO

Across Europe, new forms of employment are emerging, different from traditional forms of employment. The relationship between employer and employee has changed, also the work organization and work patterns. Working conditions are at the core of paid work and employment relationships. Working conditions cover a broad range of topics and issues, from working time (hours of work, rest periods, and work schedules) to remuneration, as well as the physical conditions and mental demands that exist in the workplace. Safe and healthy workplace is a fundamental right of every person and also a business imperative. Workplace settings vary widely in size, sector, design, location, work processes, workplace culture, and resources. In addition, workers themselves are different in terms of age, gender, training, education, cultural background, health practices, and access to preventive health care. This translates to great diversity in the safety and health risks for each industry sector and the need for tailored interventions.

10:50 – 11:00 Different Dimensions of Job Quality

Ms Barbara Gerstenberger, Head of Unit for Working Life, Eurofound

11:00 – 11:10 Severe labour exploitation: workers moving within or into the European Union

European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights

11:10 – 11:20 Gender Equality and the Digital World

European Institute on Gender Equality

11:20 – 11:30 Work 4.0 - the future world of work

Mr Thorben Albrecht, State Secretary Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs

11:30 – 12:10 Interactive session – discussants from:

- Employers' organizations at national level (tbc)
- Trade Unions' organizations at national level (tbc)
- Representative of ICT company in Bulgaria (tbc)
- Ms Irene Wennemo, State Secretary to Minister for Employment and Integration, Sweden

Q&A

12:10 – 12:30 Summing up

Moderators of all panels

Closing remarks

12:30 – 12:40 *Ms Mariya Gabriel, EU Commissioner for Digital Economy and Society, European Commission*

Mr Biser Petkov, Minister of Labour and Social Policy of the Republic of Bulgaria

12:40 – 14:00 Lunch