

EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF CAREER GUIDANCE



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EUROPEAN CAREER GUIDANCE CONFERENCE "CAREER-EU 2013"

The European Association of Career Guidance (EACG) in cooperation with the European Association of ERASMUS Coordinators (EAEC), the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan and the INENTER Network, organises the 4th CAREER-EU Conference from 15-19 May 2013, in Poznan, Poland. The CAREER-EU is organized under the 9th annual ERASMUS Congress and Exhibition - ERACON2013. The INENTER Conference - INENTER, Improving the Placements and Internships from Academia to Enterprises - will also run in parallel.



The Conference "CAREER-EU 2013" will deal with current developments in the field of career guidance and employment in order to exchange experiences and to find solutions to soften the impacts of the current crisis on the labour markets and to improve the quality of life of European citizens.

The registration deadline is **Friday, 26 April 2013**. The main themes of the Congress include:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good Practices to obtain Employability in the Crises • Job Finding • New skills for new jobs • Recruitment • LLP and Funding Policies • ERASMUS for All 2014-2020 • Senior Citizens Support • 2013 - The European Year of Citizens • Diagnostic Tests • Career Counselling | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality Assessment • Mobility and Career • Certification • University-Enterprises Cooperation • Training • Guidance-Enterprises Cooperation • Innovative Tools • Linguistic Preparation • Best Practices in Career Guidance • Disabled Workers |
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CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Career Guidance Counsellors and other experts are invited to make presentations and submit papers. Workshops and Sessions within the conference are also invited to discuss specific topics and to draw up concrete suggestions, which can contribute to the improvement of Career Guidance Counselling. All abstracts must be at most 250 words. The abstract is written on a single column A4 page. The deadline for the submission of abstracts is **19 April 2013**.

CAREER-EU POSTER DESIGN COMPETITION

The CAREER-EU 2013 Poster Design competition will be organized during the CAREER-EU conference. The idea is to reward the excellent poster designs that institutions and organisations produce for Career and Employment purposes. To be eligible to participate in the competition a representative has to participate and register at the CAREER-EU 2013 conference. Each institution/organisation could submit up to two posters for the competition. Diplomas will be awarded to the first three prizes. The best posters will appear on the www.eacg.eu and www.career-eu.info website.

More information is available at:

<http://www.career-eu.info/index.php?id=984>

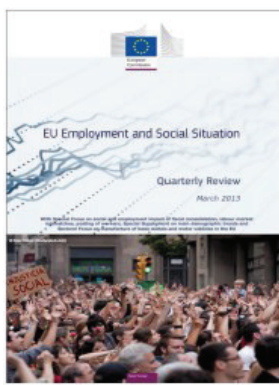
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EU EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL SITUATION QUARTERLY REVIEW – MARCH 2013



Divergence continues to increase across Member States, translating into persistently growing labour market and social challenges, marked by ever higher unemployment at EU level, according to the March edition of the EU Employment and Social Situation Quarterly Review. The situation of many households and of young people in particular, has clearly deteriorated. The Review provides an overview of developments in the European labour market and the social situation in the EU, based on the latest available data.

Employment has been trending down again since mid-2011, with positive developments only noticeable in part-time work. **Unemployment rose further** in January 2013, especially in the euro area, to 26.2 million in the EU as a whole, accounting for 10.8% of the active population, and concerns nearly one in four economically active young people.

This edition highlights the effects recent government spending cuts have had on the employment and social situation in a number of Member States. **Fiscal tightening affected employment** through both direct and indirect channels. Changes to the tax and benefits systems and cuts in public sector wages have led to **significant reductions in the level of real household incomes**, putting a heavy strain on the living standards of low income households. It also analyses the diversity in terms of **labour market matching**, recent trends in **posting of workers** across the EU, the specific situation in **Bulgaria** and in the sectors of **manufacture of basic metals and motor vehicles**. Finally it features a special supplement on the analysis of recent **demographic trends** in the EU.

More information: <http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=738&langId=en&pubId=7482>

EUROPEAN VACANCY MONITOR FEBRUARY EDITION

Despite a modest growth in job vacancies, especially in the education, health care, business and administration sectors, recruitment demand stagnated in the second quarter of 2012, says the February edition of the European Vacancy Monitor.

Public employment services' (PES) vacancy inflow remained stable, while vacancies for temporary work agencies (randstad) fell again in the second half of 2012. A 4% decline in the overall hiring activity points to stagnating recruitment and poorer job prospects for the unemployed.

Nevertheless a combined growth in employment (+2.4%) and hiring (+4.8%) was evident for professionals, in particular in the areas of administration, teaching, business, health care and engineering. PES top growth occupations correspondingly show a shift towards high-skilled occupations.

Temporary hirings were at higher levels since 2009 and have become a common practice across all professional groups with a share of over 50%, except for managing positions. They remained even higher for agricultural (75%), elementary (71%) and teaching jobs.



More information: <http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=737&langId=en&pubId=7435>

EUROPEAN JOB MOBILITY BULLETIN FEBRUARY EDITION



The European Job Mobility Bulletin provides an analysis of vacancies posted on the EURES jobs portal by national public employment services. It is specifically targeted at people looking for work outside their home region/country, and at EURES advisers aiming to help them.

According to the February issue of the European Job Mobility Bulletin, good job opportunities are available for:

- Finance and sales associate professionals;
- Shop salespersons and demonstrators;
- Housekeeping and restaurant services workers;
- Personal care and related workers;
- Modern health associate professionals, except nursing.

More information:

<http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=737&langId=en&pubId=7434&type=1&furtherPubs=yes>

CEDEFOP SILVER WORKERS – GOLDEN OPPORTUNITIES

The European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training (Cedefop) has released the document “Silver workers – golden opportunities”, which builds on the data and findings of its latest studies on working and ageing, presented during the European Year 2012.

Europe’s ageing workforce, its “silver economy”, states Cedefop, may energise development, and bring new opportunities for economic growth. However, “successful active ageing policies involve more than raising the pension age and restricting early retirement. Helping ageing workers to keep their skills up-to-date and preventing skills obsoles-

cence is essential to preserving their work ability”, says the organisation.

Cedefop stresses that effective active ageing measures should focus on approaches that support health and work capacity, age-friendly workplaces, and lifelong learning that takes into account the needs of senior workers.



More information: <http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/EN/publications/21091.aspx>

GLOBAL EMPLOYMENT TRENDS 2013 RECOVERING FROM A SECOND JOBS DIP



Five years after the outbreak of the global financial crisis, the study offers the latest global and regional information and projections on several indicators of the labour market, including employment, unemployment, working poverty and vulnerable employment. It also presents a number of policy considerations in light of the new challenges facing policy makers in the coming year.

This Global Employment Trends report for 2013 is a special edition, warranted by the resurgence of the crisis in 2012. The year 2011 saw a tapering off of the recovery, followed by a dip in both growth and employment in 2012. Unemployment increased by a further 4 million over the course of 2012.

The report estimates the quantitative and qualitative indicators of global and regional labour markets and discusses the macroeconomic factors affecting the labour markets in order to explore possible policy responses. The report examines the crisis in labour markets of both advanced economies and developing economies.

More information:

http://www.ilo.org/global/research/global-reports/global-employment-trends/2013/WCMS_202215/lang-en/index.htm

QUANTIFYING SKILL NEEDS IN EUROPE OCCUPATIONAL SKILLS PROFILES

Occupational skills profiles describe, in a comprehensive and standardised way, the skill requirements for individual jobs: the level of education and training required (and hence the complexity of the occupation); the field of education and training required; and other requirements in terms of knowledge, skills, competence, occupational interests, and work values.

The aim of the study is to bridge the information gap on occupational profiles by providing essential characteristics required by the economy, in terms of level and field of education and training, as well as other requirements such as knowledge, skills,

competence, occupational interests, and work values.

OSPs have been developed for several purposes: analysing, projecting, and forecasting skill needs; determining and measuring skill mismatches in different countries, sectors, or occupations; comparing skill needs across European countries; and determining change over time. Although still at the experimental stage, the OSPs approach has the potential to bring about significant improvements in efforts to analyse, project and forecast labour market and skill needs in Europe.



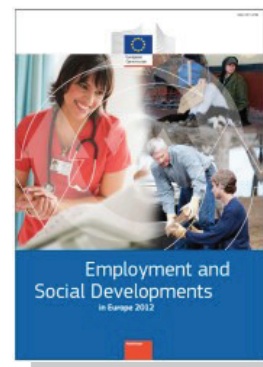
More information: http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/EN/Files/5530_en.pdf

EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENTS IN EUROPE 2012

DG Employment builds on the first *Employment and Social Developments in Europe Review* in this second edition, by conducting an analysis of the economic and social situation in the EU.

Following a year which has seen several Member States witnessing escalating debt crises, public spending is decreasing. With different parts of the EU seeing different social and employment trends, finding the right policy responses in certain key areas is crucial. Long-term employment exclusion, its impact on the labour market and the broader social dimension, is considered in this context. The functioning and efficiency of various social protection systems is also examined, with a particular focus on the effect of distributional and design aspects. Finally, the Review looks at the impact of wage developments and the problem of skill mismatches as well, concluding a fair and equitable structural adjustment agenda is needed.

More information: <http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=738&langId=en&pubId=7315>



INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS SOCIAL DIALOGUE UNDER STRAIN IN EUROPE



The on-going economic crisis poses a serious challenge to the dialogue between workers' and employers' representatives and governments according to a report published by the European Commission. The report shows that recent government reforms have not always been accompanied by fully effective social dialogue, leading to increasingly conflictual industrial relations in Europe.

Well-structured social dialogue can effectively contribute to the economic resilience of Europe. In fact, countries in which social dialogue is well-established and industrial relations institutions are strong are generally those where the economic and social situation is more resilient and under less pressure.

More information:

<http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=738&langId=en&pubId=7498>

The new report focuses on:

- how the outcomes of European social dialogue can make a real difference to the working lives of Europeans, for example on improved health and safety at work and working conditions;
- industrial relations in the public sector (public administration, education and healthcare) in light of the government spending cuts in many Member States;
- the state of social dialogue in Central and Eastern Europe;
- the involvement of social partners in unemployment and pension system reforms and in the transition towards an economy that is more sustainable and less dependent on fossil fuels.

CEDEFOP'S 2013 WORK PROGRAMME

Cedefop's 2013 work programme is consistent with its medium-term priorities 2012-14. It is aligned to the objectives of the European Union's 'Europe 2020' strategy and the policy framework devised to achieve them. This includes, in particular, the flagship initiatives, the annual growth surveys, the Education and training 2020 framework, the Bruges communiqué with its long-term objectives and short-term deliverables for vocational education and training (VET), the European Commission's employment and youth employment packages and the communication *Rethinking education*.

This policy framework, with its focus on the interdependence between employment, economic, social, education and development policies, reinforces VET's pivotal role in meeting Europe's socioeconomic challenges. Cedefop's interdisciplinary approach and its aim to bridge the worlds of education and training and employment by bringing together its work on VET policies, common European tools and skills is well suited to support this focus.

More information: <http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/EN/publications/21293.aspx>



COMMISSION PROPOSES RULES TO MAKE YOUTH EMPLOYMENT INITIATIVE A REALITY



The European Commission has proposed operational rules to implement the Youth Employment Initiative to combat youth unemployment. The Youth Employment Initiative was proposed by the European Council with a budget of €6 billion for the period 2014-20. The Youth Employment Initiative would particularly support young people not in education, employment, or training (NEETs) in the Union's regions with a youth unemployment rate in 2012 at above 25%. It would focus on integrating NEETs into the labour market.

The money under the Youth Employment Initiative would therefore be used to reinforce and accelerate measures outlined in the December 2012 Youth Employment Package. Under the Youth Guarantee, Member States should put in place measures to ensure that young people up to age

25 receive a good quality offer of employment, continued education, an apprenticeship, or a traineeship within four months of leaving school or becoming unemployed.

The Youth Employment Initiative would be complementary to other projects undertaken at national level, including those with ESF support, with a view to setting up or implementing the youth guarantee schemes, such as reforming the relevant institutions and services.

Of the funding, €3 billion would come from a dedicated Youth Employment budget line complemented by at least €3 billion more from the European Social Fund. Given Member States current budgetary difficulties due to the economic crisis, only the European Social Fund contribution would require Member States to top up with their own financial contribution.

More information:

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2013:0144:FIN:EN:PDF>

ACTION PLAN FOR SUPPORTING ENTREPRENEURSHIP

To return to growth and higher levels of employment, Europe needs more entrepreneurs. With 4 million new jobs created every year, new companies, especially small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs), create the most new jobs in Europe. Therefore, European Commission Vice President Antonio Tajani presented an action plan to support entrepreneurs and revolutionise entrepreneurial culture in Europe.

The plan stresses the key role of education and training to nurture new generations of entrepreneurs, and includes specific measures to help budding entrepreneurs among young people, women, seniors, migrants, and the unemployed.

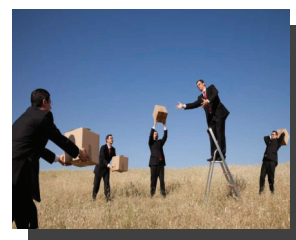
The plan covers the following six key areas where action is needed to create an environment in which entrepreneurs can flourish and grow:

- Access to finance;
- Support during the crucial phases of the business lifecycle;
- Unleash new business opportunities of the digital age;
- Easier transfers of business ownership;
- Second chances for honest entrepreneurs after bankruptcy;
- Administrative simplification.

The Commission will closely work with Member States, business organisations and relevant stakeholders to implement the action plan in the perspective to lead Europe out of the crisis, including a roadmap with specific targets and dates to deliver tangible results.

More information:

http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/newsroom/cf/itemdetail.cfm?item_id=6367&lang=en



UPCOMING EVENTS

- **European Career Guidance Conference 2013**
15-19 May 2013, Poznan, Poland
<http://www.career-eu.info/index.php?id=984>
- **9th annual ERASMUS Congress and Exhibition - ERACON2013**
15-19 May 2013, Poznan, Poland
<http://eracon.info/index.php?id=153>
- **Renewing vocational education and training to tackle skill mismatch: work-based learning and apprenticeship for all?**
12-13 June 2013, Thessaloniki, Greece
<http://events.cedefop.europa.eu/VET-conference-2013/en/>
- **Work, Wellbeing and Wealth: Active Ageing at Work**
26-28 August 2013, Helsinki, Finland
http://www.ttl.fi/en/international/conferences/work_well_being_and_wealth/pages/default.aspx

HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER

The Association is open to any individual or organisation interested or dealing with Career or Employment issues, as well as any organisation willing to become a One-Stop-Service-Shop for Career Guidance.

The application procedure to become a member of the Association is very easy. The following link provides direct access to the subscription webpage and all the necessary information that the applicant needs to know:

<http://www.career-eu.info/index.php?id=137>

The Association offers **two kind of subscription schemes**:

- For Institutional/Organization membership €150
- For Individual membership €100

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