



EUROPEAN SECTORAL SOCIAL DIALOGUE IN EDUCATION

Working Group 3: Higher Education and Research

29 September 2014

Venue: Conference Centre Albert Borschette (room 4B)
Rue Froissart 36, 1040 Brussels, Belgium

09.00 **Pre-meeting of Project Steering Committee of WG3 follow-up project** on “Supporting early career researchers in higher education in Europe – and the role of employers and trade unions”

10.00 **Preparatory meetings**

- Trade Unions: room 4B
- Employers: room AB-305

Joint meeting – from 11.00 to 17.15

Interpretation: EN-FR-DE

Chair: Andreas Keller (ETUCE)

Draft Agenda

11.00 Start of joint meeting; tour de table; introduction to the meeting by the chair of the working group

Topic 1: WG3 follow-up project “Supporting early career researchers in higher education in Europe – and the role of employers and trade unions”

The goal of our joint project is to improve social dialogue in the higher education sector and to promote the exchange of information and experience among EFEE and ETUCE members. More specifically, we aim to reach a shared understanding about the specific challenges facing early career researchers in Europe incorporating the perspectives and roles of trade unions and employers and the available options for responding to these challenges; to understand the trends in the career progression of female researchers, including areas of progress, and identify initiatives that have been successful in improving equality in career progression, particularly those initiatives that provide support to early career researchers; and to provide insight to the European Social Partners in Education on what they can do to improve social dialogue on industrial relations and employment issues pertaining to early career researchers.

11.15 Introduction to and background of the joint project on “Supporting early career researchers in higher education in Europe – and the role of employers and trade unions”

By project partners:

- Bianka Stege, General Secretary of EFEE
- Riku Matilainen, Senior Adviser, Forskarförbundet (Finnish Union of University Researchers and Teachers, ETUCE) (tbc)
- Helen Fairfoul, Chief Executive, Universities and Colleges Employers Association of the UK (UCEA)

11.30 Presentation of preliminary results of the joint project on “Supporting early career researchers in higher education in Europe”; in particular the reports from the interview visits to Cyprus, Finland, Hamburg (German State), Italy and the UK will be discussed

By project research team:

- Geoff White, Senior Adviser Research and Project Research Director, UCEA
- Laurence Hopkins, Head of Research and Project Lead Researcher, UCEA

12.15 Questions and feedback from WG3 members

12.45 *Lunch*

14.15 Presentation and discussion on possible joint ESSDE outcome on the topic of supporting early career researchers in higher education

- Bianka Stege, General Secretary of EFEE
- ETUCE (tbc)

Topic 2: ETUCE’s policy papers on Early stage researchers/doctoral candidates and on Quality Assurance in Higher Education

15.00 Presentation of the policy papers (Jens Vraa-Jensen, ETUCE)

15.30 Questions and answers

16.00 *Coffee break*

Topic 3: Linking the work of ESSDE WG3 with the ET2020 working group on Modernisation of Higher Education

16.15 Modernisation of Higher Education / Focus and work programme of the ET2020 working group (Klara Engels-Perenyi, Policy Officer, EAC.C.1 – Higher education: Modernisation Agenda; Erasmus+)

16.45 Discussion on how we could link our work in the ESSDE with the work of the ET2020 working group on Modernisation of Higher Education

17.15 End of meeting