



EUROPEAN SECTORAL SOCIAL DIALOGUE IN EDUCATION

Working Group meeting

25 February 2019

Minutes

Chair: EFEE

1. Opening of the meeting

The agenda of the meeting was adopted with the addition of a discussion on a draft joint position on Erasmus+ and Horizon Europe under point 3.

Minutes of the plenary meetings of 19/11/2018 were approved.

2. Key note speech: Strategies and practices for quality teaching and learning in the European Higher Education Area

Although education is a Member State's competence, it bears a strong European dimension and is considered as an important element to build cohesive and resilient societies. Tina Delva presented briefly some of the work done at EU level through the Bologna's [Advisory Group on Learning and Teaching](#); the renewed agenda for higher education; peer learning activities; and other actions towards a European Education Area by 2025 such as the pilot project to launch European Universities.

Some exchanges followed notably on the objectives of the European Universities and the budget allocated to this pilot phase.

3. Plenary discussion on how social partners can contribute to the development of effective strategies for quality teaching and learning across Europe

EFEE and ETUCE members shared information on challenges and best practices experienced in their countries. Recurrent themes were: the need for further training (on teaching, digitization, diversity of students) opportunities during working time; the precarity of some teachers on short term contracts, the lack of reward for teaching (vs research).

Social partners then discussed a draft joint position on Erasmus+ and Horizon Europe aiming at asking for their involvement in the management of the funds. Secretariats agreed to work further on the draft and will consider how to incorporate the various comments made (both programmes or only Erasmus+).

underline the work done in the Sectoral Social Dialogue Committee, refer to academic freedom, more precise link with sustainable development goals 4 and 8, the importance of national funds.

4. Social dialogue and collegial governance in higher education and research: definitions, categorisation and capacity building needs for effective social dialogue in higher education and research

Eurofound's project on capacity-building for an effective and well-functioning social dialogue aims at identifying specific capacity gaps (such as lack of sectoral social dialogue, representation, etc.) and needs such as financial and human resources (see annex). Based on the findings of exploratory work undertaken in 2018 (stakeholder consultation, literature review, input from the Network of Correspondents, stakeholder seminars), Eurofound has come up with a definition of capacity building as the enhancement of the abilities and powers of the social partners to engage effectively at different level in social dialogue, collective bargaining, co-regulating the employment relationships, tri-/bi-partite consultation, public policy making and influencing public policy making via advocacy. Eurofound will organise two exchange seminars on sectoral collective bargaining (in July) and on tripartism (in September) in 2019.

5. Plenary discussion on how to improve social dialogue and collegial governance in higher education and research: can we identify capacity building needs, issues to be addressed and possible solutions for an effective and meaningful social dialogue in higher education and research?

Participants split into three groups and exchanged on some of the gaps and needs for capacity building in HE&R (problems of representativeness, membership reduction, lack of public funding, adequate consultation of social partners, increasing presence of business organisations in the governance and board of universities, etc.).

6. Capacity building for an effective European Sectoral Social Dialogue in Higher Education and Research: next steps and way ahead

Daniel Wisniewski called on trade union organisations to share information on potential partners in their respective countries to support EFEE in its capacity building exercises. EFEE intends to apply for a capacity-building project in 2020.

7. Update on pan-European pension schemes (RESAVER)

Slaven Misljencevic (SM) provided an update of the first pan-European multi-employers pension scheme RESAVER (see annex). Operational since May 2017, it is now in place in Hungary, Austria and Belgium and covers approximately 1000 researchers. Italy and Netherlands (+/- 800 researchers) are working towards its implementation. Next steps for RESAVER are to (1) develop further with other organisations and countries; and (2) consider developing a 3rd pillar option (personal pension option).

Answering to some questions, SM further explained that: (1) the fund should cover 50.000 employees to reach sustainability (all employees of an organisation can be covered, not only mobile researchers); (2) organisations joining RESAVER may appoint 2 trade union and 2 employers representatives.

8. A.O.B.

None

Annexes

- Point 4 – Eurofound
- Point 7 – Resaver

List of participants 25/02/2019

DELEGATION	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	REPRESENTING
EFEE 9 representatives (5 men; 4 women); (1 EU; 2 EU-13; 6 EU-15)	AL-MANSOUR	Franciska	SI
	HOLOPAINEN	Heikki	FI
	HOPKINS	Laurence	UK
	HUIJSSE	Johan	NL
	METSÄRANTA	Teija	FI
	POCKAR	Nives	SI
	WISNIEWSKI	Daniel	EU
	ZAMMIT	Tania gaetana	MT
	PELTIER	Elise	BE
ETUCE 22 representatives (16 men; 6 women); (5 EU; 4 EU-13; 12 EU-15; 1 non-EU)	ÅMOSSA	Karin	SE
	BOERSMA	Jan	NL
	BORZAN	Marian	RO
	CAMMILLI	Paola	EU
	CLAAR	Dr. simone nicole	DE
	COPELAND	Rob	UK
	DIAS	Tiago	PT
	FRANK	Andrei	EU
	FYLAKTOU	Filios	CY
	GRAFENAUER	Danijel	SI
	HERMANS	Maarten	BE
	JONES	Frank	IE
	KOGUC	Tomasz	EU
	LEYMARIE	Stéphane	FR
	MATILAINEN	Riku	FI
	NORGÅRD	Jorunn dahl	NO
	PIROSCIA	Salvatore	EU
	RADEKA	Igor	HR
	ROMAN	Agnes	EU
	SOONS	Jan	BE
STEFENHAGENA	Dita	LV	
VELLA	Christopher	MT	
Other	DEBIAIS-SAINTON	Vanessa	COM
	LAURENT	Isabelle	COM
	MISLJENCEVIC	Slaven	COM

	FODEN	David	EUROFOUND
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