



Invitation

Benchmarking Working Europe 2020 – Where does Hungary stand in the regional comparison?

Monday 22th February 2021 from 14:00 to 15:30

A virus is haunting Europe. And it could strike again. This year's 20th anniversary issue of the European Trade Union Institute's (ETUI) and the European Trade Union Confederation's (ETUC) flagship publication Benchmarking Working Europe brings to a growing audience of trade unionists, industrial relations specialists and policymakers a simple warning: beside SARS-CoV-2, the virus that has caused the Covid-19 pandemic and thrown Europe's economies into a sudden and profound recession, 'austerity' is the other nefarious agent from which workers, and Europe as a whole, need to be protected in the challenging months and years ahead. A new wave of austerity could not only undermine the post-Covid recovery, but it could also fundamentally undermine the European social and economic integration project.

It is essential to note from the outset that there are enough signs to justify some cautious optimism about the future trajectory of the present crisis. The 20th anniversary issue of Benchmarking has allowed the trade unions to contribute to key European debates on the basis of fact-based analysis. The issue explores some of the key (mis)steps in the way Europe responded to the previous crisis so as to further emphasise the paradigm change that the response to the current crisis necessitates. Also, there is an exhaustive analysis highlighting the importance of the European Green Deal with its prospects and challenges.

The Friedrich Ebert Stiftung Office in Budapest organises a panel discussion involving the leaders of Hungarian employer and employee representative bodies, a leader of a non-governmental organization and the authors of Benchmarking Working Europe about Hungary's place in the international comparison in the context of work and crisis management.

P r o g r a m m e

Moderator: Emília Krug, journalist

Opening: Jörg Bergstermann, director of the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung Office in Budapest

Introductory presentation: [Benchmarking working Europe 2020](#)

- Béla Galgóczi, senior research officer of the European Trade Union Institute (ETUI) in Brussels

Panellists:

- László Kordás, president of the Hungarian Trade Union Confederation (MASZSZ)
- Ferenc Rolek, vice-president of the National Union of Hungarian Industrial and Employers' Confederation (MGYOSZ)
- Márton Czirfusz, research officer of Periféria Policy and Research Centre

Short films:

- Torsten Müller, senior research officer of the European Trade Union Institute (ETUI) in Brussels, co-author of Chapter 4: Fair minimum wages and collective bargaining: a key to recovery
- Nicola Countouris, director of the Research Department at the European Trade Union Institute (ETUI) in Brussels and a professor in Labour Law and European Law at the Faculty of Laws of University College London (UCL)

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You can join the live discussion in the ZOOM application, also you can watch it later on the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung Budapest's Facebook page. Feel free to forward the invitation, if you wish to participate in the webinar, please register here: [Online registration](#)