



## EUROPEAN SECTORAL SOCIAL DIALOGUE IN EDUCATION WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2016-2017

### The context for the 2016-2017 joint Work Programme

As European social partners in Education, we deem it important to consider in our work the impact of economical, social and demographic developments on the education sector and to continue to focus our joint work on topics that have sufficient common ground for discussion and for initiatives with a clear added value for cooperation at European level. Herewith we take also in consideration the agenda of the European Commission in the field of education, employment and social affairs, in particular the work of DG Education and Culture and DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion. We wish to contribute to the improvement of the quality of education in Europe thereby focusing on the modernisation of the education sector, its managements and its teaching personnel. In all our work we keep in mind the gender equality principle.

The European social partners in Education will consequently continue to keep in close and frequent contact to ensure that - where it is appropriate to do so - they lobby the European Commission and other organisations jointly.

### Table of Work Programme 2016-2017

The joint work programme for 2016-2017 combines continuation of work already started and new work. The table below summarises the themes, methodology, schedule and possible outcomes.

### ESSDE meetings 2016-2017

In total 4 meetings per year will be organised: one Steering Committee meeting, two Working Group meetings and one Plenary meeting. For 2016 the following dates have been selected:

- 18 January 2016: Steering Committee meeting
- 3 June 2016: Working Group meeting on Higher Education and Research
- 30 September 2016: Working Group meeting on topics defined in the Work Programme
- 8 November 2016: Plenary meeting

The dates and topics for the meetings in 2017 will be defined in the course of 2016.

## ESSDE WORK PROGRAMME 2016-2017

<b>LIST OF TOPICS FOR ESSDE MEETINGS</b>				
<b>THEMES</b>	<b>METHODOLOGY</b>	<b>WHO</b>	<b>SCHEDULE EXPECTED OUTCOME</b>	
<b>Cooperation with DG Education and Culture and DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion</b>	Discuss in ESSDE context involvement of European (Sectoral) Social Partners in ET2020 related initiatives and the European Semester	EFEE/ETUCE members	2016 –2017 Continuous process	Updated knowledge on ET2020 initiatives and improved input from ESSDE
<b>Public/Private developments in education</b>	Continue the discussion on Public/Private Education	EFEE/ETUCE members	2016 –2017 Topic for one of the meetings	Shared understanding regarding developments in public, independent and private education.
<b>Paris Declaration and facilitating integration</b>	Discuss how we as social partners can contribute to promoting civic education, intercultural dialogue and democratic citizenship in education and training in general, as well as of other relevant competencies to facilitate especially the migrants' integration in the educational and socio-economic environment of the host countries	EFEE/ETUCE members	2016 –2017 Topic for one of the meetings	Updated knowledge and peer learning on how social partners can contribute to follow-up of Paris Declaration and facilitating migrants' integration
<b>Open and innovative education and training</b>	Discuss recent trends in the education sector regarding open and innovative education (including the digital era)	EFEE/ETUCE members	2016 –2017 Topic for one of the meetings	Updated knowledge on changes in demand and the provision of education, schools and universities of the 21 <sup>st</sup> century
<b>Supporting teachers, trainers and school leaders</b>	Discuss how we as social partners can contribute to enhancing the professional profile of teachers, trainers and school leaders, by improving effective initial education, early career support, and focus on <b>continuous professional learning and development.</b>	EFEE/ETUCE members	2016 –2017 Topics for one of the meetings	Common understanding, updated knowledge and peer learning on improving the support to educators, including continuous professional development
<b>Making the teaching profession more attractive</b>	Discuss on how we as social partners can contribute to transforming the teaching profession into one based on professionalism, aspiration, teamwork and diversity of career opportunities	EFEE/ETUCE members	2016 –2017 Topics for one of the meetings	Common understanding, updated knowledge and peer learning on how to make the teaching profession more attractive

<b>Vocational education and training and Apprenticeships</b>	<p>Discuss how we as social partners can contribute to improving</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-link VET/apprenticeship and labour market</li> <li>- role of VET teachers, trainers and school leaders of VET in apprenticeship schemes</li> <li>- promotion of the European Alliance for Apprenticeships</li> </ul>	EFEE/ETUCE members	2016 –2017 Topics for one of the meetings	To be discussed with VET and apprenticeship experts
<b>Higher Education &amp; Research</b>	<p>Discuss how we as social partners can contribute to improving</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-link Higher Education and labour market</li> <li>-Mobility (of professors and researchers)</li> <li>- gender equality (topics to be discussed with HE&amp;R members)</li> </ul>	EFEE/ETUCE members	2016 –2017 Topics for one of the meetings	To be discussed with HE& R members
<b>High-quality skills and competences</b>	<p>Discuss how we as social partners can contribute to the development of relevant and high-quality skills and competences, including the initiatives of the European Skills Agenda</p>	EFEE/ETUCE members	2016 –2017 Topics for one of the meetings	Updated knowledge and improved input from ESSDE to European Skills Agenda and other initiatives to promote development of high-quality skills and competences
<b>Promotion of Social Dialogue</b>	<p>Joint consideration of how to promote national social dialogue and the further development of the European sectoral social dialogue in education</p>	ESSDE Social Partners	2016 –2017 Continuous process	Agreed guidelines, joint position paper or other outputs to be decided by the European social partners in education.
<b>Monitor follow-up ESSDE outcomes</b>	<p>Evaluate implementation of ESSDE outcomes</p>	ESSDE Social Partners & ETUCE/EFEE members	2016 –2017 Continuous process	Monitoring reports of follow-up ESSDE outcomes
<b>Communication Strategy</b>	<p>Make better use of communication means in order to improve visibility of ESSDE</p>	ESSDE Social Partners	2016 –2017 Continuous process	Joint ESSDE Newsletter

CURRENT AND FUTURE ESSDE PROJECTS AND THEIR ACTIVITIES				
THEMES	METHODOLOGY	WHO	SCHEDULE	MEETING
Capacity Building II Project	Continue the work of joint project on <b>European Sectoral Social Partners in Education promoting the potentials of their dialogue through knowledge transfer and training</b> ; led by ETUCE	Open to ETUCE/EFEE members in host countries	Various dates first half 2016	Roundtable meetings in HU, EE, ES, LV and Serbia
		Open to all Higher Education members of ETUCE/EFEE	21 June 2016	Final conference in Amsterdam
Project on Decent Workplaces	Continue the work of joint project on <b>Social Partners promoting decent workplaces in the education sector for a healthier working life</b> ; led by ETUCE	Open to EFEE/ETUCE Members from UK, DE, PL, CZ, HU, SK, SI, LT, EST, LV, NL, SE, DK, IE	29 January 2016	Training seminar in London
		Open to all EFEE/ETUCE members	9-10 June	Final Conference in Bucharest

### **Additional information**

- In 2016 and 2017, EFEE and ETUCE will continue to be involved in the European Policy Network on School Leadership (EPNoSL).
- In 2016 and 2017, EFEE and ETUCE will be involved in the cross industry social partners project on “Improving social partners’ involvement in EU support for public investments in training and education”, led by ETUC.
- In case of joint declarations or similar documents, it is necessary that both the employers and trade unions can agree on the translations, in order to avoid any misunderstanding.

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**BACKGROUND:** The European Sectoral Social Dialogue in Education (ESSDE) was launched in 2010, under the Articles 154-155 of the TF-EU Treaty. This came after four years of initiation and start-up processes carried out by the ETUCE and from early 2009 onwards, together with EFEE. The first meeting of the ESSDE was in June 2010.

### **OUTCOMES OF SOCIAL DIALOGUE UNDER THE WORK PROGRAMMES OF 2010-2011 AND 2012-2013**

At the second meeting of the ESSDE in January 2011 the European social partners in Education set up three working groups (WGs) on specific topics:

- WG1: Quality in Education
- WG2: The Demographic challenges

- WG3: Higher Education and Research

Furthermore, in 2013 an additional working group was organised on the topic of Public/Private Education. In 2014, EFEE and ETUCE decided to shift away from this strict division in different working groups and to discuss instead several topics in one working group. Only WG3 on higher education and research has its own meetings.

During 2010-2011, the European social partners in Education worked together on three projects focusing on specific topics:

- Trans-regional cooperation in lifelong learning among education stakeholders (ETUCE-led)
- Leadership and Governance in Schools as instruments for improving student results and preparing them for lifelong learning (EFEE-led)
- Teachers' work-related stress: European-wide Survey—Assessment, Comparison and Evaluation of the Impact of Psychosocial Factors on Teachers at their Workplace in the EU (ETUCE-led)
- Promotion, awareness –raising and dissemination of the multi-sectoral guidelines to tackle third-party violence and harassment related to work

And in 2010-2011 the ESSDE agreed on two **joint** texts:

- Joint Declaration on Investment in Education
- Joint Guidelines on Trans-regional cooperation in Lifelong Learning among education stakeholders

During 2012-2013, the following projects, linked to the ESSDE, were carried out:

- Recruitment and retention in the education sector, a matter of Social Dialogue (ETUCE-led)
- Social partners in education concerned about violence in schools: How to prevent and mitigate third party violence and harassment in schools? (ETUCE-led)
- Self-evaluation of schools and teachers as instruments for identifying future professional needs (EFEE-led)
- Teacher unions preventing early school leaving through the use of ICT in education (ETUCE-led)
- The development of the teaching profession in times of the economic crisis as a key task for social partners in education. Finding joint strategies to tighten the links between education and the labour market (ETUCE-led)
- European Policy Network on School Leadership (run by FORTH Research Institute in partnership with EFEE and ETUCE)

And in 2012-2013 the ESSDE agreed on five **joint** texts:

- Joint Statement on Professional Qualifications Directive
- Joint Recommendations on Recruitment and retention in the education sector, a matter of social dialogue
- Implementation Guide for the Education Sector of the Multi-Sectoral Guidelines to Tackle Third-Party Violence and Harassment Related to Work
- Joint report from the social partners in the education sector on the implementation of the multi-sectoral guidelines to tackle third party violence and harassment related to work
- Joint Declaration on Self-evaluation of schools and teachers

During 2014-2015, the following projects, linked to the ESSDE, were carried out:

- The European sectoral social dialogue in education - Promoting its potentials through strengthened capacities and knowledge at national level – Capacity Building I project (ETUCE led)
- Supporting early career researchers in Higher Education in Europe – The role of employers and trade unions (led by EFEE member: Universities and Colleges Employers Association of the UK)
- Professional autonomy, accountability and efficient leadership – The role of employers’ organisations, trade unions and school leaders (led by EFEE member: Secondary Education Council of the Netherlands)
- European Sectoral Social Partners in Education promoting the potentials of their dialogue through knowledge transfer and training – Capacity Building II project (ETUCE led) (project will end in 2016)
- Social Partners promoting decent workplaces in the education sector for a healthier working life (ETUCE led) (project will end in 2016)

And in 2014-2015 the ESSDE agreed on four **joint** texts:

- Joint Declaration on Supporting early career researchers in higher education in Europe
- Joint Declaration on School Leadership
- Joint Position on the Contribution of sectoral social dialogue to the strengthening of social dialogue
- Joint Pledge for the European Alliance for Apprenticeships