



ETUCE Newsletter

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Berlin TP Conference

The Final conference of the ETUCE project: “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.” was successfully held in Berlin on 13-14 November 2013.

The high participation of conference attendees was remarkable. Moreover, many participants enriched the event with constructive and knowledgeable contributions which can be used in ETUCE’s and its member organisations’ further work to strengthen and empower the teaching profession in these difficult times. The participants of the conference were engaged and supportive which made the conference a good platform for a broader discussion on the findings that the project report has highlighted and made it possible to find common recommendations.

The outcome of the final conference are priorities and recommendations for further action at the regional, national and European level. The core areas to take action in should concern a general promotion of the image of the profession in society and the media, on remuneration of teachers and on better continuous professional development in the teaching profession. These recommendations reflect that the attractiveness of the teaching profession has worsened during the years of the economic crisis and that time has come to encourage development and improvement in different areas to consequently also ensure the quality of education. The role for EU social partners in education should be to contribute to this work by disseminating best practices and elaborating new recommendations at European level.

The recommendations which ETUCE will distribute to member organisations addresses to social partners as well as national and European employment policy makers and emphasizes the necessity to invest more into education in order to reach the EU 2020 core targets both in education and employment.

HERSC Meeting, Brussels

The Higher Education and Research Standing Committee met on 21-22 November 2013.

Many important issues were discussed during the meeting in Brussels, including the role of higher education in the Unite for Education campaign and the newly initiated high-level dialogue with the European social partners in education. The possible negative impact of the trade agreements between the EU and other parts of the world on public education was



also discussed. The members were encouraged to include priorities on higher education and research in the national negotiations on the next year's Country Specific Recommendations of the European Semester.

The two HERSC working groups on Early Stage Researchers and on Quality Assurance continued the work with respective draft policy papers. Both draft policy papers will be presented at the next HERSC meeting on 6-7 March, 2014 for adoption.

Financial Transaction Tax

During the last years, ETUCE has regularly informed member organisations about the activities of the coalition Europeans for Financial Reform (EFFR). The EFFR has been campaigning tirelessly for the Financial Transaction Tax (FTT) in Europe. In the meantime, 11 EU-Member States have agreed to implement the FTT following a proposal from the European Commission. At the same time, the financial lobby makes every possible effort to delay the introduction of the FTT. Now, the EFFR mobilises its supporters to remind the governments of these 11 countries of their good intentions rather than to bow under the pressure of the lobby groups.



ETUCE is one of the early supporters to the EFFR. This is why ETUCE draws its member organisations' attention again and again to this important campaign. It also recommends the EFFR's new website for more information on this initiative and for news on possible actions that can be made at a national and European level. The new website will hopefully make work even more effective and improve the quality of the campaign. It will help the EFFR to enhance its outreach to European

citizens. It will enable the EFR to set up online actions such as petitions addressed to European leaders and finance ministers who have pledged to make the FT a reality in Europe.

The campaign website was launched only recently and can be obtained via the link below: <http://www.financialtransactiontax.eu/>. It is fully available in English, German, Spanish, French and Italian. Users are invited to send their statements to all the heads of state or government and the finance ministers of those 11 countries who agreed to implement the FT within the enhanced cooperation procedure. Additionally, they can also upload pictures or post personal comments on this webpage.

On the website, the EFR presents its new web-petition that is being forwarded to the responsible politicians in mentioned 11 EU member states and in the EU institutions. ETUCE asks its member organisations to support this e-action and to continue promoting the campaign through their organisational structures.

ONLINE EDUCA

ONLINE EDUCA BERLIN is the largest global conference on technology supported learning and training for the corporate, education and public service sectors. Now in its 19th year, the conference will bring together over 400 speakers and more than 2000 participants from over 100 countries. In this environment which promotes international networking for all sectors ONLINE EDUCA BERLIN is the event for learning professionals to discover innovative solutions, absorb new thinking and bring home ideas in order to take action, implementing change in the field of technology and learning.



The use of technologies in formal education places specific demands on institutions and educators. With organisations increasingly influenced by cost, performance and society 3.0's demands, how do educators approach the task of developing a diverse array of relevant learning tools? How can we change if the current system of learning cannot handle the challenges learners face? Which pedagogical methods are used and replaced, and how are institutions and learning providers themselves changing and learning as they redefine service delivery and focus on the new skillsets required for students?

Susan Flocken, the ETUCE Coordinator responsible for Internal Policy Coordination, Occupational Health & Safety has been invited by the organisers to present our ongoing project on ICT and Early School Leaving: Teacher Unions preventing early school leaving through the use of ICT in education. Follow the link to find out more on our project:

<http://www.online-educa.com/>