



EUROPEAN SECTORAL SOCIAL DIALOGUE IN EDUCATION WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2014-2015

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.

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

The context for the 2014-2015 joint Work Programme

The European social partners in Education continue to be concerned about the current economic and social situation in Europe that remains critical; we want 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. 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 need to 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 2014-2015

The joint work programme for 2014-2015 combines continuation of work already started and new work. The table below summarises the themes, methodology, schedule and possible outcomes.

ESSDE meetings 2014-2015

In total 4 meetings (or Working Groups) will be organised: two in 2014 and two in 2015. The first meeting will take place on **4 April 2014**. During this event an update will be given on the development of the activities listed in the detailed Work Programme below. Furthermore a range of topics will be discussed (see 3rd block of the WP). This first meeting will be open to all EFEE and ETUCE members. The second WG will take place on **26 June 2014**. This WG is reserved for EFEE/ ETCUCE members dealing with Higher Education and Research. During this meeting an update will be given on the first findings of the project on “Supporting early career researchers in Higher Education in Europe”. Other topics are also scheduled.

The Plenary meeting of the ESSDE Committee, open to all EFEE/ETUCE members is planned on 6th of November.

The dates and topics for the meetings in 2015 will be defined in the course of 2014.

ESSDE WORK PROGRAMME 2014-2015

LIST OF TOPICS FOR ESSDE MEETINGS				
THEMES	METHODOLOGY	WHO	SCHEDULE EXPECTED OUTCOME	
Cooperation with DG Education and Culture of the EC	Discuss in ESSDE context cooperation of European (Sectoral) Social Partners with DG EAC on topics such as: 1. Strategies to recruit, retrain and develop high quality teachers both initial teacher education and career-long professional development; 2. Delivery methods in schools, VET and higher education.	EFEE/ETUCE members	2014 –2015 Continuous process	Possible joint view for meetings with DG EAC
Public/Private developments in education	Continue the discussion on Public/Private Education	EFEE/ETUCE members	2014 –2015 Topic for one of the meetings	Common understanding of terminology regarding public, independent and private education.
Opening Up Education	Discuss recent trends in the education sector regarding opening up education (ICT, OER, MOOCs etc.)	EFEE/ETUCE members	2014 –2015 Topic for one of the meetings	Updated knowledge on changes in demand and the provision of education, schools and universities of the 21 st century
How education supports employment	Discuss on how we as social partners can contribute to topics such as youth unemployment, ageing society, gender equality	EFEE/ETUCE members	2014 –2015 Topics for one of the meetings	Common understanding and updated knowledge on the need for reforms in the education to increase quality in education
Schools of the 21st century	Discuss on how we as social partners can contribute to the improvement of skills and competences of teachers and school management, working conditions	EFEE/ETUCE members	2014 –2015 Topics for one of the meetings	Common understanding and updated knowledge on the need for reforms in the education to increase quality in education

Promotion of Social Dialogue	Joint consideration of how to promote national social dialogue and the further development of the European sectoral social dialogue in education	ESSDE Social Partners	2014 –2015 Continuous process	Agreed guidelines, joint position paper or other outputs to be decided by the European social partners in education.
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MONITOR FOLLOW-UP ESSDE OUTCOMES

THEMES	METHODOLOGY	WHO	SCHEDULE	EXPECTED OUTCOME
Follow-up of work on Lifelong Learning	Continue the joint evaluation of the implementation of the Joint Guidelines on Lifelong Learning that were agreed in January 2011	ESSDE Social Partners	Evaluation started in 2013, finalised Q1 2014	Short survey on implementation on national, regional and local level of LLL guidelines
Follow-up of work of WG 2, Demographic challenges	Evaluate the national actions of the <i>Joint Recommendations on Recruitment and retention in the education sector, a matter of social dialogue</i>	ESSDE Social Partners	2014 –2015 Process to be determined	Short implementation report on the recommendations. If necessary, follow-up joint action on recommendations.
Follow-up of work of WG1: Quality in Education	Evaluate national actions of the <i>Joint Declaration on Self-evaluation of schools and teachers</i> on national, regional and local level	ESSDE Social Partners	2014 –2015 Process to be determined	Translated versions of joint declaration spread at national/local level. If necessary, follow-up by joint action.
Follow-up of Third-party violence and harassment projects	Evaluation national actions of <i>Implementation Guide for the Education Sector of the Multi-Sectoral Guidelines to Tackle Third-Party Violence and Harassment Related to Work</i>	ESSDE Social Partners	2014 –2015 Process to be determined	Short implementation report on the impact of the guide. + Input for work at cross industrial level

CURRENT AND FUTURE ESSDE PROJECTS AND THEIR ACTIVITIES

THEMES	METHODOLOGY	WHO	SCHEDULE	EXPECTED OUTCOME
Project on Higher education and research	Continue the work of ESSDE WG 3 with the project on <i>Supporting Early Career Researchers in Higher Education in Europe</i> ; led by EFEE member UCEA from the UK in close cooperation with EFEE and ETUCE as project partners/co-applicants. Specific focus will be given to <i>female</i> early career researchers.	Open to all Higher Education members of ETUCE/EFEE	29 September 2014	To update on and discuss preliminary outcomes of project
		Open to all Higher Education members of ETUCE/EFEE	21 November 2014	Final conference in London
Project on School Leadership	Continue to work on the topic of School Leadership. Joint project led by EFEE	Open to EFEE/ETUCE members	25 April NL 10-11 June MT 17-18 Sept UK	3 Peer learning visits (NL, UK, MT) + reports

	member Secondary Education Council NL in close cooperation with EFEE and ETUCE as project partners/co-applicants on Professional autonomy, accountability and professional leadership			
		Open to EFEE/ETUCE members	13 November 2014	Final Conference + possible joint ESSDE outcome

Additional information

- In 2014-2015, both EFEE and ETUCE will continue to be involved the European Policy Network in School Leadership (project is run by Research Institute FORTH).
- 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.