



**EPSU workshop on  
“Decentralisation, the changing role of the State and trade union responses”**

**15-17 December, Ver.di Education Centre, Berlin**

**DRAFT AGENDA**

**Day 1: Thursday 15 December**

*Morning: arrival of participants*

12h30      **Registration and lunch**

14h00      **Welcome, workshop objectives and introduction of participants**

*Harald Kielmann, EPSU*

As well as giving your name and that of your union and country, please answer 2 questions:

1. Name at least 1 important challenge that you anticipate for your union in the next 5 years (in terms of public sector restructuring)
2. Name at least 1 important aspiration that you have for this workshop

15h00      Overview of TRACE project *Laila Castaldo*, TRACE secretariat

15h15      Overview of EPSU and political context

*Penny Clarke and Nadja Salson*

15h45      Coffee break

16h15      **Working group session (1)**

Each working group session will discuss the different case studies that have been prepared by participants and then decide a priority case study to be presented in the plenary session.

*3 country-based groups*

17h45      **Feedback of day 1**

18h00      Close

18h30      Joint dinner in Education Centre

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## Day 2: Friday 16 December

- 09h00      **Report back from working groups**  
Each group will briefly report on the discussion and explain the reasons for choosing the group’s priority case study
- Presentation and discussion of the priority case studies**
- Case study 1 + discussion
  - Case study 2 + discussion
  - Case study 3 + discussion
- 10h30      Coffee
- 11h00      Trends with decentralisation in the EU: Panel discussion from a local/regional and state sector perspective
- Patrice AZAN* Europe policy officer CNFPT, Centre national de la fonction publique territoriale, France (to be confirmed)
- Discussion
- 12h30      Lunch
- 14h00      **Working group session (2)**
- What are the implications of decentralisation for **collective agreements and working conditions** (e.g. wages, working time, gender equality, pensions, employment contract as well as the status of civil servants)?
- Is there a link between political restructuring and the privatisation of public services? What is the role of the non-profit sector?
- 2 groups (NEA representatives / LRG representatives)
- 15h30      Coffee
- 15h45      **Departure for Berlin visit to Reichstag (Parliament), Ver.di headquarters, joint dinner in town**

## Day 3: Saturday 17 December

- 09h00      **Report back from working groups (2)**
- 09h30      **Working group session (3)**
- How does the shift in responsibilities and competences – including tax competences - impact on the **quality of services to citizens**? How can we develop **EU standards on quality public services** (EPSU campaign)?
- 2 or 3 groups*
- 11h00      Coffee
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11h15      **Report back from working groups**

11h45      **Planning of follow-up**

- Network presentation
- Ideas regarding the guidebook
- Preparation of third workshop

12h30      Reflections and conclusions

13h00      **Close of workshop**

**Lunch**

**Departure of participants**