

With the support of the European Commission

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To the members of the EPSU
Prison Service Network and the
NEA Standing Committee

Ref.: JWG/RP/sd

Contact persons: Nadja Salson and Richard Pond

Brussels, 10 April 2017

Quality Employment and Quality Public Services in the Prison Services Sector

09.00-17.00, 10 May 2017

Venue: European Transport Workers' Federation, Galerie Agora

Dear Colleagues,

We would like to invite you to a one-day conference in Brussels on 10 May which is part of a two-year project on quality employment in the public services. This workshop will focus on **prison services** and will provide affiliates an opportunity to discuss how to define quality employment in the sector and what are the priority issues for trade unions, including health and safety, staffing levels and training. For many this will be in the context still of austerity and how to achieve improvements in working and detention conditions with continuing pressure on public budgets.

This meeting is a follow-up to the conference organised by EPSU in January 2017 which provided for an initial exchange on the various themes that are relevant for any discussion around quality employment. A short report is available [here](#).

Part of the project will involve background research that will focus on a small number of country case studies. The HIVA research unit at Leuven University has been contracted to work on this project and Monique Ramioul, the head of HIVA's Work and Organisation Research Group will outline the research proposals and the approach to the case studies.

The meeting will also include a session on the role of management and a debate on updating EPSU common demands for better working and living conditions in prisons.

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For background information on recent developments in prison services, please see [here](#) and the report we commissioned from the LRD on impact of austerity in prison services with a focus on health and safety, available in English, French and Spanish [here](#). A presentation of the initial findings of that research was made at our last meeting in London in 2015.

Reimbursements – travel and accommodation: Funding from the European Commission will allow us to provide financial support for travel and accommodation costs to 15 participants, with priority going to affiliates from Central and Eastern Europe. The funding enables EPSU to contribute to travel costs with a maximum of 350 euros and to accommodation costs up to a maximum of 140 euros per night for a maximum stay of 1 night.

Languages: There will be active interpretation in English, French, Spanish and Italian, along with passive (you can speak but not listen to) German and Greek.

Gender equality: We would encourage affiliates to help us improve the gender balance at this event by nominating women delegates.

We hope that your trade union will participate and look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

Best regards,



Jan Willem Goudriaan
General Secretary

List of Enclosures: to be found at <http://www.epsu.org/event/epsu-conference-quality-employment-and-quality-public-services> (members only area - login to the EPSU website)

- Draft agenda
- Participation form
- Area map ETF - List of hotels in Brussels