



**Empowering the integration of younger workers in the European Metal,
Transport, Food, Services, Construction and Wood Industries
(as part of the EU Social Agenda)**

13 to 15 May 2015 - Cavtat – Dubrovnik (Croatia)

BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THE PROJECT AND THE YOUTH CONFERENCE

Within the European labour market, the integration and inclusion of younger workers has gained increasing attention from EU-policymakers and trade unions. The rather complex legal situation at EU-level and in the Member States – where we have different European Directives, national legislations, collective agreements and policies regulating the youth labour market - on the one hand, and the high unemployment rate and job insecurity of younger workers on the other, make it difficult for trade unions to adequately defend the interests of the younger workers and to integrate younger workers in their structures. In addition, for different reasons, younger workers feel often reluctant to integrate into the trade union structure and sometimes they are unaware of the support that they can receive from these organizations. Despite all this, trade unions are strongly committed to achieve a sustainable and inclusive economy with high levels of employment, productivity and social cohesion for all workers, including younger workers. But to represent them in the best possible way, it is indispensable that the trade unions fully reflect the concerns and needs of the younger workers through their integration and active involvement.

The Empowering the integration of younger workers in the European Metal, Transport, Food, Services, Construction and Wood Industries project aims to support the efforts of national trade unions to better attract and integrate young workers into their structures and to involve them in their decision making processes.

At the youth Conference, 6 interactive workshops - divided into two sessions - will be organized to give participants the opportunity to discuss in smaller groups about their experiences on:

I SESSION:

1. Making trade unions more attractive for youngsters in the EU;
2. Shaping innovative ways of communication through new technologies and social networks;
3. Recruiting young workers to the trade unions;

II SESSION:

4. New mobilization techniques;
5. Young workers' needs: making trade unions advocacy more representative;
6. Improving youngsters' role in the trade union structures.

It is important to remember that all the information collected during the different discussions will be used to finalize a Best Practice Manual for the integration of young workers into trade unions. This tool will be distributed at a later stage to Trade Unions at National level.

Please note that part of the conference and workshops might be filmed and that pictures might be taken.



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