

European Federation of Public Service Unions (EPSU) Press Release – 17 December 2021

Eurofound's Industrial Relations Landscape report reinforces the relevance of Social Employers and EPSU's request to establish EU Level Sectoral Social Dialogue for Social Services

Last week, Eurofound published its <u>Industrial Relations Landscape Report</u>, which compiles the information from the previous representativeness studies in the public services sectors: <u>Central Government Administration</u>, <u>Local and Regional Government and Social Services</u>, and <u>Human Health</u>.

The conclusions of the new report confirm that the European Federation of Public Service Unions (EPSU) is the representative trade union federation in the social services sector, and that the Social Employers is the representative employers' organisation for privately provided social services. It also acknowledges the significant joint work done by EPSU and the Social employers, who mutually recognise each other as social partners, to strengthen social dialogue in social services.

As can be seen in the report, the social services sector is rapidly growing across Europe. Already in 2018, the social services sector employed around 11 million workers, over 5% of the total EU labour force. This number will only continue to grow to match the needs of Europe's ageing population. The development of proper social dialogue structures at EU level is therefore crucial to address the multiple challenges faced by the sector, to implement the European Pillar of Social Rights and the forthcoming European Care Strategy, and to improve social dialogue in social services at national level.

These findings reinforce the relevance of joint request of EPSU and the Social Employers to establish an EU level sectoral social dialogue committee for social services. We therefore urge the European Commission to proceed with this request in a timely manner.

For more information:

The Social Employers and EPSU apply for a European Sectoral Social Dialogue Committee for Social Services

The EPSU/ The Social Employers and EPSU release a joint Position Paper on the forthcoming European Care Strategy Employers joint position on the upcoming care strategy

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EPSU is the European Federation of Public Service Unions. It is the largest federation of the ETUC and comprises 8 million public service workers from over 265 trade unions; EPSU organises workers in the energy, water and waste sectors, health and social services and local, regional and central government, in all European countries including the EU's Eastern Neighborhood. EPSU is the recognized regional organization of Public Services International (PSI). For more information please go to: http://www.epsu.org

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