

Joint Social Employers/EPSU Webinar: Safe and healthy workplaces in Social Services during and after the COVID-19 pandemic and the role of Social Partners

Tuesday, 9th June, 14.00 – 16.00, Interpretation in EN, FR, DE, IT and ES

As states across Europe gradually ease their confinement measures, many social services are resuming their inter-personal, face-to-face services. Their re-opening brings about challenges related to **upholding new health and safety measures** and poses potential risks to care workers.

This webinar, co-organised by the Social Employers and EPSU, will aim to identify **key challenges related to the safety and health of workers during the re-launching of services**, and how services will need to adapt to a new reality. It will also highlight the key role of social partners to achieve safe and healthy workplaces.

The first part of the webinar aims to present an overview of challenges linked to occupational safety and health resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. Leading international experts from the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (**EU OSHA**) and the World Health Organization (**WHO**) will present their outlook as well as their recommendations for safe work which in turn is closely linked to the safety of users.

The second part of the webinar will be dedicated to **representatives of both employers and trade unions**. Social partners have played a central role in promoting safe and healthy workplaces and in improving the preparedness of the sector. The panelists will present their initiatives as well as their involvement in the promotion of safe working practices in the field of social services.

In short, the webinar aims to answer the following questions:

- What are appropriate measures that will help to achieve safe and healthy workplaces for care workers during and after the Covid-19 pandemic?
- How has social partnership contributed and continues to contribute to the protection of workers and users?

Agenda

14.00–14.15 Introduction and welcome

Maryvonne Nicolle, President of EPSU's HSS committee

Jiri Horecky, Vice-President of the Federation of European Social Employers

14.15–14.45 “COVID-19: Challenges related to safety and health of workers during the re-launching of social services”

Elke Schneider, Senior project manager and expert on biological risks at EU OSHA

WHO Europe (tbc)

14.45 – 14.55 Question and Answer Session

14.55 – 15.00 Short break

15.00–15.40 “The contribution of social partners in ensuring the health and safety of workers and users “

Frédéric Hyacinthe, Director, Apei des 2 Vallées, FR

Michele Vannini, National Secretary for Health and Social Services, FPCGIL, ITA

Tim Kind, policy advisor in Actiz, NL

Tba, EPSU

15.40-15.50 Question and Answer Session

15.50–16.00 Conclusions and Closing

Practical Information

The webinar will take place on Zoom, which allows for simultaneous interpretation. Interpretation will be provided in English, French, German, Italian and Spanish.

You can register on-line through our website event page at this address:

<https://www.epsu.org/event/epsusocial-employers-webinar-9-june-2020>

We will provide a link to access the meeting in the upcoming week.