

European Advocacy Monitor

Q4/2017 edition (October)

The European Advocacy Monitor is a public affairs tool to provide members a brief and concise overview on main public affairs dossiers covering EU employment policy dossiers, EU Sectoral Social Dialogue, labour law/regulatory issues and internal market/business services topics.¹

Text marked in **grey** indicates the need for members' actions/contributions. For the last column (national/country specific information), the Head Office welcomes further input and contributions from members.

Comments and amendments to the European Advocacy Monitor should be sent to Michael Freytag (michael.freytag@wecglobal.org)

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¹ For dossiers that are not covered in this monitor, leaves the main advocacy / European public affairs actions to BUSINESSEUROPE. This applies especially to the Working Time Directive debate and corporate social responsibility.

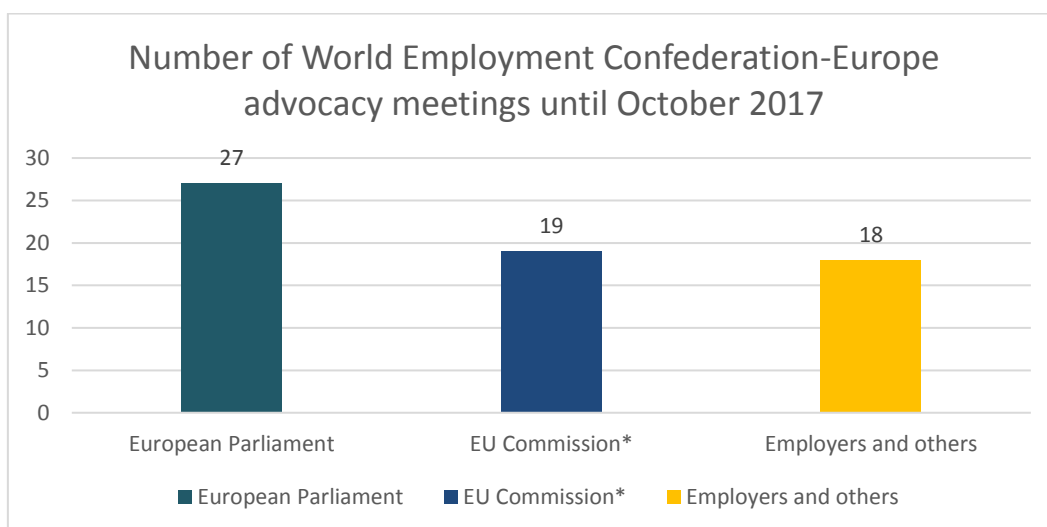
² **Red** marks a high priority level or need for quick action, **yellow** a medium-level priority and **green** those dossiers, which have a lower priority level and/or are less controversial.

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EU Public Affairs and Advocacy Calendar Q4/2017

Date	Conferences and events
3 rd October 2017	World Employment Confederation-Europe data protection webinar
11 th -12 th October 2017	World Employment Confederation-Europe EP Advocacy Days and MEP lunch debate (report is available on information hub)
18 th October 2017	Public Affairs Committee
19 th October 2017	EU Sectoral Social Dialogue
26 th October 2017	European Employers Network seminar on the European Pillar of Social Rights and coordination between BusinessEurope and sectoral employers organisations
22 nd November 2017	EU Expert Group on Legal Migration
27-28 November 2017	Opening up an Era of Social Innovation, Conference in Lisbon
30 November 2017	European Business Services Alliance

EU Advocacy meetings with EU policy makers are of course also arranged on an ongoing and ad-hoc basis and normally not fully covered in the quarterly calendar.



* Meetings at EU Commission cover cabinet level, DG Employment and DG GROW (enterprise, industry and internal market)

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Dossier	Keywords of the discussion	Latest developments and next steps	Background Information	Advocacy actions, next steps & requests to members ³	National/country information
Changing World of Work High Priority Dossier	<p>The changing world of work is addressed by several EU initiatives, such as the collaborative economy, the EU Pillar of Social Rights and the EU's involvement in the ILO debate.</p> <p>At the sectoral social Dialogue level, a joint project will be conducted in 2017-2018 on online talent platforms, labour market intermediaries and the changing world of work</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EU SSDC project endorsed by the European Commission • Conference on the EU Pillar of Social Rights on 23 January 2017, several consultation seminars took place in 2016 • Commission Communication on the collaborative economy (2016) • EU Commission Communication on the EU Pillar of Social Rights and White Paper on the social dimension of Europe by 2025 (White Paper) published on 26th April • Summit in Goteborg to reach preliminary agreement on the pillar on 17th November 2017 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EU Consultation for an EU Pillar of Social Rights • EU Commission Communication on the collaborative economy • World Employment Confederation website on the changing world of work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • White Paper on the Changing World of Work • WEC-Europe position paper on the EU Pillar of Social Rights • WEC-Europe Position Paper on the Written Statement Directive • WEC-Europe Position Paper on access to Social Protection • Briefing Paper on the Four Enabling Functions of the Employment Industry • Strategic Dialogue on the changing world of work on 21st of June with Commissioner Marianne Thyssen in Brussels • Second steering committee and stakeholder workshop linked to the EU Sectoral Social Dialogue Project (14 September) 	

³ (Final) Position Papers are available on the website, background information on further actions and tools are available at the Head Office.

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<p>Revision of the EU Posting of Workers Directive</p> <p>High Priority Dossier</p>	<p>The Posting of Workers Directive addresses the protection of workers moving to other EU Member States when providing a service. Whereas the Initial Directive of 1996 focuses on minimum conditions, a Commission proposal of March 2016 to revise the Directive focuses on equal remuneration</p> <p>The agency work industry is explicitly covered by the Directive and addressed in the revision</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8th March 2016: EU Commission issued proposal on the revision of the posting of workers directive Reactions have been published by BusinessEurope, ETUC, CEEMET, IndustriAll Europe and other social partners. Yellow-card procedure might delay the legislative debate. EU Commission decided in July to maintain its proposal and thus to overrule the concerns expressed by Member States. EP Employment Committee voted on the revision of the Directive on 16th October, plenary vote in October. EU Council to reach general approach 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Posting of Workers Information website of DG Employment Text of the Posting of Workers Directive (1996) Text of the enforcement Directive (2014) EU Commission proposal of 2016 to revise the Posting of Workers Directive Impact assessment of the 2016 Commission proposal on the revision of the Posting of Workers Directive Joint statement of the construction industry social partners on posting of workers, covering agency work World Employment Confederation- Europe assessment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Position Paper (2016) Assessment of the EU Commission proposal Membership in EU Committee of Experts on Posting of Workers. Two Meetings in 2015: 21 May and 20 November Meeting with DG Employment (Jackie Morin) on the posting of workers (2 June 2017) Ongoing Meeting with MEPs. All major rapporteurs and group policy advisors meet between June – December 2016. Follow-up meetings took place in first half of 2017 Several World Employment Confederation-Europe Members are requested to complete their Posting of Workers Factsheets (PT/SW). Activity linked to EU Sectoral Social Dialogue 	<p>Posting of Workers factsheets for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Belgium Denmark France Germany Italy Netherlands Poland Spain United Kingdom

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		most likely in Oct. 2017	of the amendments table by the EP Employment Committee		
EU Data Protection Regulation and its impact on the employment industry High Priority Dossier	EU discusses reform of the European rules on data protection. Cross-industry dossier, which might have significant impacts on the employment industry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> January 2012: Commission proposal on the reform of the data protection rules June 2015: Data Protection proposal supported by EU Council of Ministers December 2015: Agreement in the Trilogue between Commission, Council and EP on the data protection regulation April 2017 World Employment Confederation-Europe delegation participated in data protection FabLab event 	European Commission website on data protection EU Regulation on General data protection (2016)	World Employment Confederation-Europe Taskforce established to provide guidance in the application of the Directive World Employment Confederation-Europe application to join EU Multi-Stakeholder Expert Group, reply pending Webinar to exchange information between WEC-Europe members held 5 th December 2016. Second webinar implemented on 3 rd October 2017 Data protection Action Plan set up Data Protection Seminar for members planned for 7 th February 2018	

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Employment industry in the digital age (online platforms, digitalisation) High Priority Dossier		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> European Commission Digital Single Market Strategy launched in 2015 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Website of DG GROW (Enterprise, industry and internal market) Eurofound Report on Digitalisation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Position Paper on digital services and online platforms (2015) Position Paper on the EU Single Market Strategy (2016) Meeting with cabinet member of Commission Vice-President Katainen (Feb. 2017) Meeting at DG GROW on 3rd of March 2017 Further meetings with DG GROW planned for Q4/2017 	
Employment Services as business services European Business Services Alliance High Priority Dossier	Business Services, Competitiveness, Growth, Internal Market Opportunity for to illustrate and promote the internal market/ business services dimension of private employment services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EU high-level group on business services published comprehensive report Employment industry is specifically recognised as part of business services sector Next Meetings of the European Business Services Alliance on 29th November 2017 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Website of the EU high-level group on business services Website of the European Business Services Alliance Twitter account of the European Business Services Alliance 	Jointly with other business services associations, launched the European Business Services Alliance, bringing together several business services employers' federations Next meeting of the European Business Services Alliance on 29 th November 2017	

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Promotion of cooperation between employment services / Dialogue with the EU Network of Public Employment Services High Priority Dossier	EU Network of Public Employment Services to exchange best-practices and promote mutual learning. Opportunity for to promote cooperation between public and private employment services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commission decision on the establishment of network of public employment services has been adopted in published in the EU official journal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decision of the European Parliament and Council for setting up a network of public employment services Commission Report on the activities of the network and the application of the decision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 29th November 2016: Meeting with Fons Leroy, Chair of the EU Public Employment Services Network Pending invitation of the World Employment Confederation-Europe to a Public Employment Services Network Board meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overview on PrES-PES cooperation best-practices
Inclusive labour markets (Youth Employment / Skills Strategy, disabilities) High Priority Dossier	EU policy discussion on fostering youth employment, transitions and skills enhancement for young people. The debate on youth employment helps to illustrate the transitions and stepping-stone function of agency work, as well as its role in skills enhancement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth employment addressed in the context of the European Semester and through specific policy initiatives of DG Employment European Semester process: 2017 country specific recommendations to published on 16th May 2017 by the European Commission 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EU Website on youth employment European Taxonomy on skills, competences and occupations Europe 2020 country-specific recommendations 2017 EPC Task Force Report on Youth Employment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Position paper on inclusive labour markets and diversity 2016 Michael Freytag to act as speaker at conference on "Strengthening Youth Employment in Europe" on 1st of June 2017, further speakers include Fons Leroy, CEO of the VDAB and Chair of the European Network of Public Employment Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Belgian bi-partite training fund Dutch bi-partite training fund Italian bi-partite training fund French bi-partite training fund

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<p>EU Sectoral Social Dialogue on TAW (activities outside joint project)</p> <p>Medium Priority Dossier</p>	<p>Sectoral Social Dialogue with Uni-Europa focusing on joint research, round tables to joint contributions to EU policy debates</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated SSD Work Programme Next EU Sectoral Social Dialogue Committee meeting on 19th October 2017 Steering committee for the project on online talent platforms, labour market intermediaries and the changing world of work: Stakeholder Workshop 14 September. Next steering committee and concluding conference in Q1/Q2-2018. Steering committee members: Menno Bart (The Adecco Group), Sonja van Lieshout (Randstad Holding), Liz Banks (REC) and Jakob Tietge (Dansk Erhverv) Sectoral Social Dialogue Round Table 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Call for tender to launch the project on "Online talent platforms, labour market intermediaries and the changing world of work" World Employment Confederation – Europe website section with the outcomes of the SSDC Outcomes of the most recent joint project on comparing agency work with other forms of employment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WEC-Europe Head Office liaises closely with Uni-Europa in the preparation of the next SSDC meeting Special steering committee for the current EU Sectoral Social Dialogue project Project conducted in cooperation with Brussels Think Tank Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS) and the German research centre IZA 	

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Agency Work Directive / EU Semester for labour market reforms Medium Priority Dossier	Setting appropriate regulation on temporary agency work and ensuring protection of agency workers: Equal treatment and review/lifting of unjustified restrictions The World Employment Confederation - Europe uses the Directive to call for the lifting of unjustified restrictions & appropriate regulation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> meetings planned in Serbia (2018) Legal case in Finland 2015. CJEU Judgement of 17th March 2015: No direct effect of Article 4, no qualitative assessment of reasons for use and maximum length of assignment Commission Application Review Report published in March 2014, which did not yet lead to discussions or follow-up actions <p>Social Dialogue: Discussion with Uni-Europa on CLA restrictions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Website of DG Employment on working conditions of temporary agency workers Commission Application Review Report on the Directive Text of the Directive Judgement of the CJEU on the legal case 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Position Paper on the Review of the Directive (2013) Position Paper on the economic rationale for lifting restrictions (Dec. 2014), available at the Head Office upon request 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint WEC-Europe/NF letters sent to the governments of Austria, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Greece, Italy, Latvia, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Sweden (available at the Head Office upon request)
EU platform on the prevention and deterrence of undeclared work Medium Priority Dossier	Prevention and deterrence of undeclared work through exchange of best-practices and policy guidance .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Legal framework for the EU platform on the prevention of undeclared work adopted at EU level in December 2015 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information on European Commission website Eurofound Report (2013) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Briefing Paper on the prevention of undeclared work and the EU platform (2017) MEP lunch debate on compliance, enforcement and the prevention of 	Based on research, countries most affected by undeclared work are countries with low AW penetration rates

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	World Employment Confederation Europe contributes to the debate to illustrate the benefits of a well-regulated employment and recruitment industry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EU Platform to become operational in 2016, agency work sector has not been selected as sectoral social partners to join the platform 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Final Decision of the EU Council and EP on setting up an EU platform on the prevention of undeclared work 	undeclared work on 11 th of October with Georgi Pirinski and the Dutch SNCU	
EURES – EU Job Mobility Portal Low Priority Dossier	Reform and opening-up of the EU Job Mobility Platform EURES to private employment services Opportunity to contribute to the debate on well-organised work mobility	New legal framework for EURES to be adopted formally adopted in Spring 2016, to be implemented in 2018 at national level.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EURES Website EURES Regulation of 2016 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Position Paper on the EURES Reform (2017) Several reports on meetings of with the officials of DG Employment in charge of the EURES reform are available at the Head Office Meeting with DG Employment Unit Work Mobility & EURES (Oct. 2017) Presentation on EURES at the next WEC-Europe GA in December 2017 	
EU framework for health and safety at work Low Priority Dossier	Commission initiative to promote occupational health and safety at work. No specific, PrES/ sectoral dimension,	Commission proposal for the strategy 2014 – 2020 published in 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Text of the Commission Proposal EU Commission website on health and safety at work 	Public affairs actions on the dossier are taking in cooperation with and through BUSINESSEUROPE WEC-Europe delegation attended Health and Safety workshop organised by the EU Commission in	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Belgium best-practices on health and safety at work (Prevention & Interim)

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	but dossier to monitor			Luxembourg on 20-21 September 2017	
Reconciliation of professional and family life / Demographics / ageing Low Priority Dossier	The reconciliation of professional and family life, demographics and challenges linked to the ageing of European societies are discussed at EU level linked to the Europe 2020 strategy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commission Green Paper on demographic challenges (2005) Discussion of demographic trends in the context of the European Semester and country-specific recommendations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DG Employment website on demographic change Eurostat data on demographic trends Europe 2020 country-specific recommendations 2016 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Position Paper on inclusive labour markets and labour market participation (2016) 	
Work migration and the refugee crisis Low Priority Dossier	The EU Refugee and migration crisis has been dominating the EU policy agenda since mid-2015. Monitoring the discussions and contributing to the debate	The migration and refugee crisis is addressed on a regular basis by the EU Commission and by different Council formations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EU Commission: An agenda for migration (2015/2016) EU Commission summary document on measures to address the refugee crisis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Briefing Paper on the role of the employment industry in addressing the refugee crisis 	
"Brexit" and the consequences of the UK Referendum Low Priority Dossier	In a referendum, the UK voted in 2016 in favour of leaving the EU. A formal request to leave the EU (Article 50)	With the triggering of the Article 50 procedure, the formal phase for negotiations has been launched. The negotiations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economist Dossier Financial Times Dossier 	The World Employment Confederation does not act on the dossier, but monitors the debate. More information can be obtained via our UK member REC	UK World Employment Confederation-Europe member REC

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	procedure) has been launched end of March 2017, rather difficult negotiation process so far	between the UK and the EU will last for two years			