



FORTE

Social dialogue for skills, training and working conditions in social services



Project No.: 101051751

Thematic Seminar

Improving working conditions in social services: Promising practices from across Europe

► **Date:** 12 October 2023 ► **Time:** 9h30 – 15h30 CET ► **Place:** Spaces - Brussels
Manhattan Center, Avenue du Boulevard 21/5th Floor, 1210 Brussels

► **Interpretation:** English, French, German, Spanish

► **Zoom link:**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88298456194?pwd=KvCvnZsaLzFYnmA2nMI6foKYWBbYbS.1>

Meeting ID: 882 9845 6194

Passcode: 015807

Most EU Member States report significant staff shortages in the care sector, and the gap between workforce supply and demand is growing. According to the European Care Strategy, "almost half of people aged 65 or over with long-term care needs have an unmet need for help with their personal care or household activities". More than 1.6 million additional long-term care workers will be needed by 2050. **To attract and retain qualified and skilled workers**, it is essential to improve working conditions.

The Social Employers and EPSU have **gathered good practices on improving working conditions in social services from 10 EU countries**. The practices cover a variety of topics from risk assessment to prevention of musculoskeletal disorders and psycho-social risks.

During the Thematic Seminar, social services organisations will discuss their good practices, explain success factors, benefits and encourage social services providers to use them as inspiration for their own context.

Eurofound will present the new report "[Social services in Europe: Adapting to a new reality](#)". The **European Commission** will update us on the implementation of the European Care Strategy, launched one year ago, and **EU-OSHA** will provide insights into current research and perspectives in the field of working conditions in the sector.

This Thematic Seminar is held in the framework of the FORTE project, which pays special attention to the role of social partners and collective bargaining in managing evolving job profiles, skills, and training needs, and ensuring better working conditions.



With financial support from the European Union



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Agenda

- 09:30** **Welcome coffee & registrations**
- 10:00** **Introduction to the topic & day**
Penny Clarke, Deputy General Secretary, EPSU
- 10:15** **“Social services in Europe: Adapting to a new reality” - Presentation of key findings from new Eurofound report**
Moderator: Sylvain Renouvel, Social Employers
- Tadas Leončikas, Head of Unit Employment, Eurofound
- 10:40** **Good practices on improving working conditions in social services**
Topic 1 “Assessing working conditions”
Moderator: Sylvain Renouvel, Social Employers
- Guillaume Boucheron, NEXEM (FR)
 - Johanneke van Woerden, ActiZ (NL)
 - Jiri Horecky, APSS CR (CZ)
- 11:10** **Coffee break**
- 11:30** **Topic 2 “Preventing physical health risks”**
Moderator: Joëlle Garello, Elisfa
- Ismael Ribera Sanchís, Centro Asociación Amigos de los Ancianos-Residencia San Francisco (ES)
 - Carole Gayet, INRS (FR)
- Topic 3 “Welcoming and supporting staff”**
- Ursula May & Theresia Krenn, Kuratorium Wiener Pensionisten-Wohnhäuser (KWP) (AT)
 - Diane Grech Galea, Agenzija Sapport (MT)
 - Julie Bossuet, Fédération Centres Sociaux Loire et Haute-Loire (FR)
- 12:30** **Lunch break**
- 14:00** **Topic 4 “Improving work-life balance”**
Moderator: Diana Chiriacescu, FONSS
- Barbara Gurtner, Service Mensch GmbH (AT)
- Topic 5 “Support learning, skills and training for better working conditions”**
- Litsa Charalambous, LCEducational (CY)
 - Bernhard Peter, Volkshilfe Wien (AT)
- 14:30** **EU-level perspectives**



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Moderator: Sylvain Renouvel, Social Employers

- Leonie Martin, HOSPEEM, on the role of social partners in preventing third-party violence and harassment at work
- Valeria Spazzoli, European Commission DG EMPL, on European Care Strategy update
- Lorenzo Munar, EU-OSHA, on take aways from the day

15:15

Next steps & closing of the meeting

Gregor Tomschizek, President, Social Employers



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