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Towards better participation in Standardisation

ETUC standardisation newsletter - October 2016

Dear colleagues and friends,

The ETUC is pleased to send you its newsletter on standardisation that will keep you regularly updated on the ETUC's activities in the field of standardisation. It will deliver information on European and international standardisation direct to your desktop. If you wish additional information and/or documents related to the news mentioned below, feel free to contact us at standards@etuc.org.

ANEC, ECOS and ETUC held their first joint event on standardisation

On 13 October 2016, ANEC, ECOS and ETUC hosted their first joint conference titled « Making standards serve society ». The conference examined the degree to which European standards meet the needs of civil society, including the support standards provide to legislation and also to policies of public interest. It further looked at possible solutions to make the European Standardisation System more inclusive in order to ensure standards truly serve the interests of society.

Held at the Renaissance Hotel in Brussels, the conference, gathered participants from the European institutions, standard-setting bodies and economic & societal interests. Speakers included Marlene Mizzi MEP, EP Rapporteur for the "Standardisation Package II", ETUC Special Advisor Józef Niemiec and Bruno Melckmans, ETUC Expert, Board member of the Belgian

Bureau for Standardisation (NBN), Advisor for Standardisation & Health and Safety at ABVV-FGTB.

Video recordings of the conference can be found [here](#) and have a look at the [press release](#).

"Our connected future", ISO Focus September - October 2016

The latest issue of *ISO Focus*, the ISO magazine, sheds light on the Internet of Things (IoT) and covers the most pervasive and ubiquitous IoT advances, trends and opinions. Leading articles from this issue address the role of standards with regard to safety (paper titled "Are we safe in the Internet of things?"), intelligent transport systems and connected cars (article "On the road to transport connectivity") or "How the internet of Things will change our lives". The *ISO Focus* is available [here](#).

While the IoT has the potential to improve the way we live and work, it is also creating new challenges regarding the safety of workers operating in fully interconnected environment, privacy at work or re-skilling of the workforce. It also calls for a wider reflection to appropriately share and redistribute the value being created by digital technologies, an issue that trade unions will further engage with in the years to come.

ETUC Standardisation Committee 2016 and training workshop

On 5 October 2016, the ETUC held its annual Standardisation committee meeting. The standardisation committee meeting gathered trade unionists from all over Europe and provided a great opportunity to exchange on European and national experiences in standardisation as well as to discuss the 2017 ETUC work programme in standardisation. In addition, special emphasis has been put on the topic "services standardisation" in order to refine ETUC strategy in this field and take stock of first hand knowledge from ETUC experts active in this field. The ETUC warmly thanks all participants for the fruitful discussions and exchanges that took place.

Following the Standardisation committee meeting, the ETUC organised a training/workshop on standardisation on 6 October. The objective of this interactive training was to provide participants with background information on

standardisation, its use as regulatory tool and to learn how standards are developed, written and how to influence their content.

This training workshop was addressed to trade unionists interested by the world of standards and provided them with the necessary knowledge for an active participation in standards setting activities. This successful training will be further organised in 2017 and training materials should be soon available online.



Insights from the European Commission at the IEC General Meetings

At the 80th General Meeting of the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), DG GROW of the European Commission hosted an event to provide insights on the 'Joint Initiative on Standardisation' (JIS) and to promote the launch of the 15 Actions of the JIS. The JIS is a voluntary and non-binding initiative to boost public-private partnership in European standardisation, through a programme of activities for the next four years. It is aimed at ensuring the continued evolution of the European Standardisation System to the benefit of both economic and societal interests. The ETUC signed the JIS and is a member of the JIS steering group working on a fine-tuned definition of the 15 actions and in charge of monitoring their implementation.

The main topics addressed during this event were speed and timeliness, modernizing the way standards are produced in Europe and clearer prioritization in the ESS. Emphasis has also been put on JIS Action 10 aimed at strengthening participation of all stakeholders at national level. Want to know

more? A [video recording](#) of the event can be found on the YouTube page of the IEC General Meeting.

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