

Expected results:

- Exchange of information and best practices between employers in the social services sector both at national and European level
- Increased knowledge and awareness about the social dialogue processes in 11 European Union member states
- Conclusions, recommendations for policy makers and stakeholders at European level and within member states
- Enhanced cooperation within the sector and promotion a culture of inclusive social dialogue at national and European level
- Dissemination of the project results through reports and newsletters and at the final conference.

If you are interested in more information please contact:

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The project, funded by the European Programme *Industrial relations and Social dialogue*, aims to remedy to the the lack of qualitative and quantitative data on labour issues in the non profit social services sector from the perspective of employers.

This marks the first step in a longterm process to establish a representative platform at European level for employers in the social services sector and to create a sectoral social dialogue committee at European level.

Kicked off in January 2012, PESSIS will run until September 2012 supported by a broad partnership of European¹ and national² organisations representing social and health services providers in close cooperation with the European trade union confederation (ETUC).

The project begins with an in-depth mapping of the situation in 11 countries. In order to collect information on the existence, the functioning and organisation of social dialogue and the involvement of the social services sector in 11 countries (Austria, Belgium, Germany, Greece, Finland, France, Ireland, the Netherlands, Slovenia, Spain, UK), the partners, supported by a team of researchers, will contact and discuss with the full spectrum of employers in the sector – non profit, commercial and public.

National stakeholders meetings, will be organised in March - April 2012, as a crucial moment to meet with all key players in the country. Starting from the subsectors well covered by the PESSIS partnership, including elderly care, long-term care, services for people with disabilities and rehabilitation, this mapping exercise will cover the bulk of all personal social services, including, e.g., the child care sector.

Information gathered during the project through the national reports will be then compiled and validated by specialist in the field, resulting in a short **European summary report** presenting the main findings and recommendations for action. The final conference on 21 June in Brussels will be the forum to present and discuss the findings of this major research effort. The conclusions and the recommendations of the project and all relevant additional information received during the final conference will feed into the **Final European Report**.

¹ CEDAG, Caritas Europa, Eurodiaconia, the European Platform for Rehabilitation (EPR), European Federation of National Organizations Working with the Homeless (FEANTSA), the European Association of Service Providers for Persons with Disabilities (EASPD), SOLIDAR, Workability Europe and the European Federation of Public Service Union (EPSU).

² Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft Wohnungslosenhilfe (BAWO)-Austria, Scottish Council for Single Homeless (SCSH)-UK, Cáritas Española, Disability Federation of Ireland (DFI), Union des Entreprises à Profit Social (UNIPSO)-Belgium, Arbeiterwohlfahrt Bundesverband(AWO)-Germany, Luovi Vocational College-Finland, University Rehabilitation Institute Republic of Slovenia (URI), Panagia Eleousa-Greece; Dutch Association of Healthcare Providers for People with Disabilities (VGN); As observers: Centre de la Gabrielle-France.

