

NETLEX CONFERENCE 2021

NETLEX anniversary conference: “25 YEARS OF TRADE UNION LEGAL ACTIVISM IN EUROPE”

2&3 December 2021
CFDT Headquarters, 4 Boulevard de la Villette
Paris 75019

And online

Programme

Interpretation: English, French, German, Italian and Spanish

Day 1 - 25th Anniversary Celebrations of NETLEX

08:30 – 09:00 Registration of participants

09:00 – 09:30 **Welcome and Introduction**

Isabelle Schömann, ETUC Confederal Secretary

Frédéric Sève, CFDT National Secretary

09:30 – 11:00 **Session I: The ETUC's legal engagement over the years**

Chair: Isabelle Schömann, ETUC Confederal Secretary

ETUC Legal and Judicial Activism

Julien Louis, Postdoctoral Researcher, Sciences Po Strasbourg

Jean Lapeyre, former ETUC Deputy General Secretary

Niklas Bruun, Transnational Trade Union Rights Expert Network (TTUR), Professor Emeritus, Hanken School of Economics

Klaus Lörcher, TTUR Member, formerly ETUC Legal Advisor and Legal Secretary of the Civil Service Tribunal of the European Union

Wiebke Warneck, EFFAT Political Secretary, former ETUC Legal Advisor

Q&A with participants

Affiliates' testimonies on the support of NETLEX and ETUC Legal Team

France – **Mathilde Frapard**, Legal Advisor, CFDT
Romain Lasserre, Confederal Assistant, Force Ouvrière

Italy – **Salvatore Marra**, International and European policies adviser, CGIL

Sweden- **Dan Holke**, former Chief Legal Counsel of LO-TCO Legal Protection

Q&A with participants

11:00 – 11:20 Coffee Break

11:20 – 12:30 **Session II: The Council of Europe**

*Chair: **Stefan Clauwaert**, ETUC Senior Legal & Human Rights Advisor*

Eliane Chemla, Vice-President of the European Committee of Social Rights

Klaus Lörcher, TTUR Member, formerly ETUC Legal and Human Rights Advisor and Legal Secretary of the Civil Service Tribunal of the European Union

Q&A with participants

Lunch 12:30 – 14:00

14:00 – 15:30 **Session III: The ETUC's legal work now and in the future**

*Chair: **Joakim Smedman**, ETUC Legal Advisor*

ETUCLEX: Next generation of ETUC legal and judicial activism, Thomas Taylor Di Pietro, ETUC Project Officer

Reinforcing networking in Europe

Nicolas Countouris, Director ETUI Research Department Director

Mélanie Schmitt, TTUR Member, Professor of Labour Law, University of Strasbourg

Marian Schaapman, ETUI Head of Unit for Health & Safety and **Aude Cefaliello**, ETUI Researcher

Rudi Buschmann, Lawyer, DGB Rechtsschutz GmbH

Johanna Wenkebach, Scientific Director, Hugo Sinzheimer Institut (HSI)

Q&A with participants

15:30 – 15:45 Coffee Break

15:45-17:00

Chair: Esther Lynch, ETUC Deputy General Secretary

Enhancing the European dimension of trade union legal networking

Fabrice Warneck and **Béatrice Bursztein**, INDEWO - In Defence of Workers

Jan Buelens, Founder of ELW Network, Professor at the University of Antwerp and Université Libre de Bruxelles

Enhancing the international dimension of trade union legal networking

Maria Helena André, Director of ACTRAV, ILO

Anton Leppik, Executive Secretary ITUC PERC

Jeff Vogt, Director, Rule of Law Department, Solidarity Center

Q&A with participants

Conclusions of the Day

Isabelle Schömann, ETUC Confederal Secretary

Dinner

18:30 outside the Musée d'Orsay (1 Rue de la Légion d'Honneur, 75007) for the museum visit and dinner. **The bus for dinner will leave the CFDT at 17:30.**

Day 2: Key legal developments in Europe

08:30 – 09:00 Registration of participants

09:00 – 10.00 **Session I: Preserving Human rights during the Covid pandemic**

Chair: Isabelle Schömann, ETUC Confederal Secretary

Claes-Mikael Ståhl, ETUC Deputy General Secretary

Özlem Yildirim, Vice President of Fundamental Rights and Rule of Law Group, European Economic and Social Committee

Henrik Kristensen, Deputy Head of Department, Council of Europe, European Social Charter Department

Q&A with participants

10:00 – 10:20 Coffee break

10:20 – 11:20 **Session II: Need for EU action on mandatory Human Rights Due Diligence to hold business accountable**

Chair: Stefan Clauwaert, ETUC Senior Legal & Human Rights Advisor

Lara Wolters MEP, Rapporteur of the 2020 EP report on corporate due diligence and corporate accountability

Clément Beaune, State Secretary to the French Minister for European and Foreign Affairs, (tbc)

Dominique Potier, Member of Parliament for the 5th Constituency of Meurthe and Moselle, France

Laura Eliaerts, Advocacy Officer, CSC/ACV and **Hugues Ghenne**, Legal Officer, FGBT/ABVV, Belgium

Marta Böning, Head of Unit Individual Labour Law and Related Fields of Law, DGB Lucia van Westerlaak, Policy Advisor, FNV

Sylvia Obregon, Policy Officer, European Coalition for Corporate Justice

Q&A with participants

11:20 – 11:35 Coffee break



11: 35 –12:30 **Session III: Trade union action in a changing world of work**

Chair: Thomas Taylor Di Pietro, ETUC Project Officer

Artificial Intelligence and the (missing) workplace dimension

Brando Benifei, MEP, Rapporteur on the EU draft AI Regulation

Stefan Gran, ETUC Senior Advisor

Aída Ponce Del Castillo, ETUI Senior Researcher, Foresight Unit

Q&A with participants

12:30 – 14:00 Lunch break

14:00 – 15:50

Chair: Isabelle Schömann, ETUC Confederal Secretary

Platform Workers: EC on the edge of a paradigm shift?

Ludovic Voet, ETUC Confederal Secretary

Emmanuel Dockès, Professor of Labour Law, University Lumière Lyon 2 (France)

Q&A with participants

Access for the self-employed to collective bargaining: a fundamental right not a competition issue?

Joakim Smedman, ETUC Legal Advisor

Dearbhal Murphy, Deputy General Secretary of the International Federation of Actors on behalf of the EAEA

Q&A with participants

Promoting collective bargaining through the EU initiatives on minimum wage and gender pay transparency

Stefan Clauwaert, ETUC Senior Human Rights and Legal Advisor

Q&A with participants

15:50-16:00

Conclusion: *Isabelle Schömann, ETUC Confederal Secretary*

