

[View this email in your browser](#)



Towards better participation in Standardisation

## ETUC standardisation newsletter - September 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](mailto:standards@etuc.org).

### Reminder - 13 October 2016 - Societal Stakeholders ' Event on European Standardisation

The European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC), the ANEC, the voice of European consumers in standardisation and the European Environmental Citizens Organisation for Standardisation (ECOS) will held their first joint event on standardisation in Brussels on **13 October 2016**. This joint event is aimed at presenting and promoting societal stakeholders' view of the European standardisation system, including topics such as inclusiveness, role and added value of societal stakeholders in standardisation or relations between legislation and standardisation. To see the detailed programme of the Conference and to register, free of charge, please [click here](#).

### ETUC, EPSU, HOPE, CED and CPME joint position on healthcare services standards

In July, the ETUC, together with the European Federation of Public Service Unions (EPSU), the European organisations of hospital associations (HOPE), doctors (CPME) and dentists (CED), have issued a joint letter warning against European initiatives to standardise medical treatments, other healthcare services and elderly care. This joint letter is available [here](#).

The development by the Comité Européen de Normalisation (CEN) of a "European strategy on standardization on healthcare services", the creation of standardisation committees addressing "Quality of care for elderly people" or "Minimum requirements of patient involvement in person-centred care" have prompted this joint action. Such initiatives show a worrying trend of an ever-increasing number and scope of projects to impact on national competences and to interfere with regulatory framework established in law, defined in collective agreements or set out in professional guidelines. The ETUC, together with the co-signatories of the letter, will continue to monitor developments in this field and will continue to engage in dialogue with policy-makers, regulators and standardisation bodies to limit the scope of standardisation in the field of healthcare and inform the debate on the best approach to be taken to improve the quality of care.

## Working on greater inclusiveness in ICT standardisation

In July, the ETUC, together with [ANEC](#), [ECOS](#) and [SBS](#) (the so-called "Annex III" organisations according to European regulation 1025/2012), have initiated a fruitful dialogue with the [European Telecommunications Standards Institute](#) (ETSI) on the issue of inclusiveness. The annex III organisations have agreed upon a joint proposal calling for, among others, free of charge membership in ETSI for societal stakeholders, a "right of opinion" to formally record Annex III organisations' views on ETSI standards, the development of dedicated training and seminars to increase the participation and awareness of societal stakeholders. The ETUC strongly hopes that ETSI's governing bodies will endorse these proposals supporting greater involvement of societal stakeholders.

## New CEN Technical Committee on Horizontal services standards

The European committee for standardisation (CEN) has approved the creation of a new technical committee ([TC 447](#)) that will elaborate horizontal services

standards for procurement, contracts and performance assessment. This work is part of the European Commission mandate [M/517](#) asking for European standardisation organisations to develop generic services standards. The ETUC will take part in the corresponding standard-writing activities that should start on the 7-8<sup>th</sup> July 2016 with the first meeting of the TC.

## The controversial extending scope of standardisation

The latest issue of the German *Kommission Arbeitsschutz und Normung* (KAN) brief shed light on the extending scope of European and international standardisation activities and warns against developing standards on social and welfare topics. The reach of standardisation has extended beyond product safety and interoperability to affect a wide range of issues such as occupational health and safety management system, sustainability, social responsibility, or postal services. Such standards have the potential to encroach upon collective bargaining and may create considerable pressure for certification. Anyone interested by the growing political relevance of standards can read the article [here](#).

## Product testing practices and standards under scrutiny - an ECOS paper

In a recently published paper entitled " How product testing practices contribute to the loss of energy savings, and how to prevent it", the Environmental Citizens' Organisation for Standardisation (ECOS) examines issues related to measurement standards and product testing and share its experience in participating in related regulatory and standardisation processes. The paper highlights main shortcomings and provides solutions for improved standardised test methods reflecting today's societal needs and real life operations. A must-read, available [here](#)!

## ETUC @ StandarDays 2016

Twice a year, the CEN and CENELEC organise StandarDays aimed at presenting the world of standards to newcomers and all actors interested by European standardisation. The latest session of the StandarDays took place in Brussels on 21-22 September 2016. In this connection, the ETUC presented its

overall action in standardisation, including main issues from a workers' point of view and main political achievements. Have a look at ETUC presentation [here](#).

---

*Copyright © ETUC STAND. All rights reserved.*

**Our website is:** <http://standardisation.etuc.org>

**Our mailing address is:** [standards@etuc.org](mailto:standards@etuc.org)

To subscribe to our newsletter, click [here](#)

The ETUC STAND project is financially supported by the European Commission and EFTA



---

This email was sent to [gdejongh@etuc.org](mailto:gdejongh@etuc.org)  
[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)  
ETUC · Bld du Roi Albert II, 5 · B - 1210 Brussels · Brussels 1000 · Belgium

MailChimp