

Dear colleagues,

I hope that you have all had a relaxing and restful summer break! We've hit the ground running already and this newsletter is a snapshot of our work for September. Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you want to know more about what UNI Europa is doing for our affiliates.

Best wishes,

OLIVER ROETHIG, REGIONAL SECRETARY



**UNI Europa Youth
Conference**



End Corporate Greed Event

welcoming more than 70 participants from 28 unions and 15 countries. Topics of discussion ranged from workforce casualisation to zero hours contracts and trade union organising, from the future world of work to right wing politics. The conference also submitted a motion to be included in the next UNI World Congress on increasing youth participation in trade unions to 10%, and to 20% by 2022.



Bratislava where the true extent of the east-west pay gap was examined. There were also testimonies from workers from Eastern Europe, and there was a particular focus on the current scandal happening in Slovakia where the Slovakian Banking Association has cancelled social dialogue with 21,000 employees.



The Digital Agenda

Digital Skills and Jobs Coalition

Oliver Roethig has been appointed to the governing board of the [Digital Skills and Jobs Coalition](#). The first meeting took place on 28th September and the key themes for the coalition's work are: addressing digital skills in the labour force, IT professionals, education and civil society.

Digital Footprint Project

On 14th September, as part of the Digital Footprint project, UNI Europa published a study on the impact of the gig economy in Switzerland, which found that over a third of Swiss citizens had tried to find work via online platforms. The study was in collaboration with the University of Hertfordshire, Ipsos MORI and the Foundation for European Progressive Studies (FEPS).



Juncker's State of the Union 2017

social dumping, equal treatment for posted workers, a European Labour Authority to be set up to ensure and protect the rights of workers, a “sixth [social] scenario” for the Future of Europe and for all Member States to implement the European Pillar of Social Rights (EPSR). However, there were some missing elements: no concrete action plan on how to ensure that MS implement the EPSR, no reference made to the Social Progress Protocol being included in the next round of Treaty changes, no mention of the importance of social dialogue or social partner agreements, no mention of collective bargaining and the digitisation of labour. UNI Europa will be watching this space.



Services E-Card Hearing

On 8th September, UNI Europa co-organised a public hearing on the services e-card with the social partners of three sectors directly affected by the proposal (the construction, cleaning and insurance industries). At the hearing, the potential impact and far reaching social consequences of the proposed e-card on these sectors were examined.



E-Card CGIL

UNI Europa Policy Adviser Maureen Hick was invited by our Italian affiliates CGIL FILCAMS to speak at an event in Rome on 22nd September on EU proposals for a services package and a services e-card. In her address, she highlighted UNI Europa’s ongoing concerns that the proposals will not create a fairer internal market but will lead to worse working conditions for our affiliates, especially in the cleaning sector.



Additional Events

ETUC workshop

UNI Europa took part in a very interesting and useful ETUC workshop on Social Protection for Self-Employed Workers. Speakers highlighted that atypical and precarious work is on the rise and that self-employed workers must be given the same labour protections and equal access to social security as more traditional workers (whilst fighting bogus self-employment). Trade unions from across Europe shared their experience and best practice on organising these workers at the national level. The ETUC is currently developing a position on protecting these workers Europe-wide.

Social Dialogue in Central European Finance Sector

On 19th September, UNI Finance affiliates from Czech Republic, Poland and Slovakia attended a conference organised by COZZ which focused on closer trade union cooperation, advanced organising and campaigning strategies to improve social dialogue standards in the Finance Sector in Central Europe.



Joint EU Partnership on Skills



On 26th September, William Maunier, President of EURO-MEI, and Daphne Tepper, Project Director of Creative Skills Europe, participated in a formal meeting of one of the Committees of the 'Conseil national des professions du spectacle' (National Council of the live performance and audiovisual professions) in Paris. Composed of representatives from professional organisations, social institutions, the Ministry of Culture and academic experts, this committee looked at establishing a shared and objective knowledge of the employment situation in the sector. Through a presentation of the achievements of the European initiative so far and the activities planned for the next year, French stakeholders were invited to further engage in the

Paris (beg. of June 2018 – exact dates tbc).








European Week of Sport

The last week of September was the European Week of Sport. EU Athletes, the federation of European players associations and athlete unions, and their members created a video outlining the need to protect integrity and end match fixing.



New staff

Finally, UNI Europa would like to welcome our new Communications Officer, Eleanor Quinn, who joins us from the European Parliament, and our new intern, Juulia Lius, who will be interning with the cross-sectoral team for 6 months as part of her studies at Helsinki Metropolia University of Applied Sciences.

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