

Occupational Health and Safety Towards a Stronger OSH Strategy for Europe



Wednesday 24th February 2016

Thon Hotel Brussels City Centre,
Brussels



Occupational Safety and Health

Towards a Stronger OHS Strategy for Europe

Overview

According to a report by the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (OSHA), every year more than 4,000 workers die due to accidents at work and more than 3 million workers are victims of a serious accident at work leading to an absence from work of more than three days. Around 24.2% of workers consider that their health and safety is at risk because of their work, and 25 % declared that work had a mainly negative effect on their health, according to the European Working Conditions Survey. Good health is a fundamental right in Europe and even though considerable progress has been made in the area of occupational health and safety throughout the years, major risks to workers health and safety continue to exist.

The European Union's performance on occupational health and safety over the last 25 years can be attributed to a large extent to the comprehensive legislation and policy actions launched and implemented by the institutions, Member States and stakeholders such as worker and employer representatives. The 2007-2012 EU Strategy on health and safety at work provided a common framework for coordination and allowed Member States to develop a national strategy, adapted to the national context and key priority areas. The awareness-raising initiatives carried out at EU and national levels have contributed to strengthening a culture of risk prevention. Furthermore, the European Commission has adopted the next Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work 2014-2020 so as to better protect European workers from accidents and diseases. The Framework aims to better implement current health and safety rules, as well as to strengthen the prevention of work-related diseases.

The Commission is currently analysing the national implementation reports and the evaluation will pay particular attention to identifying possible simplifications and/or reductions in administrative burden, particularly for micro and small enterprises, while preserving a high level of protection for workers' health and safety, with the results expected to be released by the end of 2015. This international symposium will provide an invaluable opportunity to discuss how the number of occupational accidents can be reduced especially in high risk industrial work environments, and consider an effective cross-border strategy to prevent psychosocial risks and other work-related diseases. The symposium will allow delegates to examine and assess projects, tools and best practices tackling occupational safety and health issues in Europe so as to create healthy workplaces and foster growth. Public Policy Exchange welcomes the participation of all key partners, responsible authorities and stakeholders to exchange ideas and engage in thought-provoking topical debate.

“ Every year, 2.3 million people die from work related accidents or diseases around the world. This is 6300 people every day. The Commission is strongly committed to preventing workplace accidents, promoting fundamental labour rights and enhancing the level playing field for companies. We are committed to upholding the highest standards, and we are working every day to prevent human suffering and economic costs linked to unsafe workplaces across Europe and abroad.”

- Marianne Thyssen, European Commissioner for Employment,
Social Affairs, Skills and Labour Mobility,
October 2015

Venue and Accommodation

Thon Hotel Brussels City Centre
Avenue du Boulevard 17
1210 Brussels
Belgium



Why Attend?

- ✓ Examine the EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work 2014-2020 and assess the progress made thus far
- ✓ Assess the psychosocial risks in the workplace and their impact on productivity and competitiveness
- ✓ Explore the ways to reduce occupational accidents and work-related diseases in high-risk industrial sectors
- ✓ Discuss ways of improving implementation of existing health and safety rules across EU
- ✓ Share best practices and tools for creating positive workplaces and unlocking workers' potential
- ✓ Who Should Attend?

- Mental Health Practitioners
- HR Professionals
- Occupational Health Professionals
- Organisational Development Professionals
- Employment Agencies
- National and Local Administrations
- NGOs
- Safety and Health at Work Agencies
- Health and Safety Councils
- Health and Safety Managers
- Training Managers
- Recruitment Professionals
- Psychosocial Research Centres
- Psychiatric Organisations
- Institutes of Psychiatry and Neurology
- Stress Related Organisations
- Ministries of Health
- Mental Health Commissions
- Mental Health Centres
- Equal Opportunities Officers
- Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Practitioners
- Disability Practitioners
- Employee Relations Advisers
- Legal Advisers
- Campaigning Organisations
- Regulatory Bodies
- Trade Union Representatives
- Social Workers and Social Services Officers
- Welfare Rights Organisations
- Academics, Researchers and Analysts

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Programme

09:15	Registration and Morning Refreshments
10:00	Chair's Welcome and Opening Remarks
10:10	Current European Framework for Occupational Safety and Health <ul style="list-style-type: none">• OSH in Europe: Assessing the Current Trends Across Europe• Discussing the EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work 2014-2020: Implementation and Review• Assessing the Economic Costs and Social Consequences of Accidents at Work and Occupational Illnesses• Recommendations for Future Policy Action
10:40	First Round of Discussions
11:10	Morning Coffee Break
11:30	Combating Psychosocial Risks at Work: Promoting a Healthy and Productive Workforce <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Managing and Preventing Work-Related Stress and Depression to Decrease Absenteeism, Presenteeism and Staff Turnover• Tackling Harassment and Violence in the Workplace• Supporting Employers in Tackling Psychosocial Risks in the Workplace and Promoting a Supportive Work Environment• Sharing Knowledge and Best Practices
12:00	Second Round of Discussions
12:30	Networking Lunch
13:30	Adopting a Holistic Approach to Effectively Tackle Work-Related Accidents and Diseases <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assessing the Current Data on Occupational Accidents and Work-Related Diseases in Europe• Developing a Modern and Enforceable Legislation for Musculoskeletal Diseases in the Workplace• Achieving a Comprehensive Legal Framework for the Protection of Workers Against Exposure to Toxic Substances• Sharing Knowledge and Best Practices
14:00	Third Round of Discussions
14:30	Afternoon Coffee Break
14:50	Strengthening Prevention Strategies and Improving the Implementation of OSH Rules across Europe <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Supporting SMEs and Micro Enterprises in Complying with OSH Rules• Evaluating Costs vs. Benefits of OHS Rules on Businesses• Reinforcing the Role of the Labour Inspectorate and Safety Representatives• Recommendations for Future Policy Actions
15:20	Fourth Round of Discussions
15:50	Chair's Summary and Closing Comments
16:00	Networking Reception
16:30	Close

** Please note that the programme is subject to change without notice **

Marketing and Exhibition Opportunities

We offer a range of opportunities to enable your organisation to raise its profile and communicate with key decision makers in the public sector.

For further information please contact us on +44 (0) 20 3137 8630 or email info@publicpolicyexchange.co.uk

Event Details

Date: Wednesday 24th February 2016
Time: 10:00am – 4:30pm
Venue: Thon Hotel Brussels City Centre, Brussels



Speakers Include:

- ✓ **Veerle Miranda**, Labour Market Policy Analyst, OECD
- ✓ **Prof. Dr. Dietmar Reinert**, PEROSH Chairman, Director Institut für Arbeitsschutz der DGUV (IFA)
- ✓ **Ivan Williams**, Research and Development Adviser, IOSH

Forthcoming Events

- ✓ Bridging the Digital Divide: Ensuring High-Speed and Quality Internet in Europe Beyond 2020
19th January 2016
- ✓ Unlocking the Potential of Mobile Health in Europe: Removing Barriers to the Empowerment of Citizens
20th January 2016
- ✓ Cultural and Creative Industries in Europe: Promoting Smart, Sustainable and Inclusive Growth
21st January 2016
- ✓ Free from Fear, Free from Pain: Eliminating Female Genital Mutilation in Europe
27th January 2016
- ✓ Tackling Poverty and Social Exclusion in Europe: Towards Better Social Cohesion and Tolerance in Times of Austerity
16th February 2016
- ✓ Building Resilience to Climate Change Challenges: Promoting Solutions Towards Sustainability and Growth
17th February 2016
- ✓ Tackling Youth Unemployment in Europe: Improving Outcomes for the Young Generation
25th February 2016