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in the **European**
chemical sector



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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ECEG's Meetings

Third Workshop of the Social Partners' project "On the Road to climate neutrality 2050"

26-27 October 2022, Budapest



On 26-27 October, representatives from trade unions and employers in the chemical sector met in Budapest for the third Workshop of the project “**On the Road to climate neutrality 2050**”.

The two-day meeting covered **good practice examples** and **initiatives** from different stakeholders, such as **Cefic** that presented its lobbying activities and industries’ actions in reaching climate neutrality. Moreover, the **Danish trade union confederation** focused on the tripartite social dialogue agreement on reskilling and upskilling of the workforce in order to respond to the industries skill needs for the green transition.

The workshop also hosted 5 World Café tables, each of them covering a specific topic/tool, namely:

1. Storytelling

What stories - short and simple messages - can we tell to paint a positive image of the chemical industry?

2. Checklist to become a sustainable company

How can management, employees and their representatives together put a company on a sustainable path towards climate neutrality?

3. Environmental coordinator

What can the role of an environmental coordinator be at company level?

4. Kick-starting (regional) cooperation

How could cooperation be encouraged at regional level, involving all relevant stakeholders (local company and employee representatives, trade union and employer organisation representatives, authorities, schools, other education providers, etc.)?

5. Glossary

Compilation of a list of key words that should be defined/explained to make the terms and concepts often mentioned in discussions on climate neutrality understandable.



The **Final Conference** in the framework of the current project will take place on **07-08 March** in Germany (TBC). We will share the event location once the decision is finalized.

Plenary Meeting

23 November 2022, Brussels



ECEG and industriAll European Trade Union held its annual plenary session on 23 November.

Agenda foresaw a round table discussion of the social partners **2023-2025 work programme**. The topics ranged from joint actions to tackle the current industrial crisis due to the energy prices, competitiveness, joint position on economic crisis and the schemes to retain workers to long-term sickness, etc.

Should you wish to suggest additional topics, please do not hesitate to send your proposals to secretariat@eccg.org.

We also discussed **due diligence in global supply chains** and **just transition platform (JTP)**, alongside other topics.

Please, have a look at the [full agenda](#).



ECEG's Activities

The European Year of Youth ends ...but the European Year of Skills is just about to get started!

2022 is coming to an end, as the European Year of Youth, which represented an entire year of enriching opportunities for the young people across the EU.

In line with the Commission's proposal, the ECEG and its national member associations promoted the recently concluded [Young Chemical Influencer contest 2022](#).

We are very happy that many young students with a strong passion for chemistry and STEM studies have shown their interest and support for our competition!

At this very moment, a jury of experts is evaluating the submitted videos. The winners will be announced on **12 December**.

In the meantime, we are getting prepared for the upcoming year with the new initiatives in the framework of the **European Year of Skills**.

In her **14 September** State of the Union, President Von der Leyen stressed the importance of a “*workforce with the right skills*” as a driver of the European social market economy and proposed to make 2023 the European Year of Skills.

Subsequently, the Commission adopted its proposal for a Decision of the **European Parliament** and the **Council on the European Year of Skills** on **12 October 2022**.

The European Year of Skills will put the spotlight on the importance of **up-/re-skilling** to support jobs and businesses, particularly SMEs. It is to boost **innovation** and improve companies' **competitiveness**, including by **attracting talents from outside the EU**, while realising the full potential of the digital and green transitions in a socially fair and inclusive manner.

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We look forward to contributing to this initiative with a series of meetings and events! Please, already pen **24 January 2023** in your agenda for the **ECEG-Ceemet event** at the **European Parliament**, dedicated to **career guidance**.

Joint statement on the Platform Workers Directive

ECEG, alongside the road transport organization (**IRU**), the hospitality sector (**Hotrec**), the banking federation (**EBF**) and the engineering and technology-based industries association (**Ceemet**), issued a **joint statement** signaling alarm on the recent talks in the Parliament on the planned **Platform Workers Directive**.

EP proposed an “*overly broad definition*” of the text which would “*classify essentially all businesses in the EU as ‘digital platforms’*”.

The joint position paper underlines that the current EP’s proposed definition is too vague, as almost all businesses use digital tools to organize their work. It highlights that most of the businesses now at risk of landing in the scope have been solid and reliable contributors to national budgets and social security schemes and should not be punished due to the speculative behaviour of several platforms which have created human inequity and avoided social and tax contributions to national schemes.

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Next meetings

- **24 January 2023**, Brussels | 12h30 - 14h30
ECEG-Ceemet event at the European Parliament on Career guidance
- **07-08 March 2023**, Germany
Conference “On the Road to Climate neutrality 2050”
- **13 March 2023**, Online
SSDC Meeting, Expert Group meeting 1
- **15 March 2023**, London | 11h - 12h30
ECEG’s Board Meeting
- **06 June 2023**, Brussels
SSDC Meeting, Expert Group meeting 2

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