



European Social Dialogue Academy

Sectoral Social Dialogue
Another Perspective on European Social Dialogue

Sectoral Social dialogue Committee
of the construction industry

EFBWW

76 national trade unions 33 countries

1,7 mio. members

Created in 1958

Member ETUC

Recognized EU social partner.:

- Construction
- Wood / furniture

Core activities :

- Labour market
- Migration
- Health and safety
- European Works Councils
- Professional and vocational training
- Youth
- ...





Some typical features of the construction industry

- Very fragmentized sector (SME, workplaces)
- Labour intensive (+50% of turnover is staff cost)
- Very flexible
- Highly competitive
- Highly mobile
- Dangerous
- Fraud sensitive
- ...

And receives a lot of attention by the European Commission



Social dialogue in the European construction industry

There are (still) major differences between EU15 and EU12

EU15

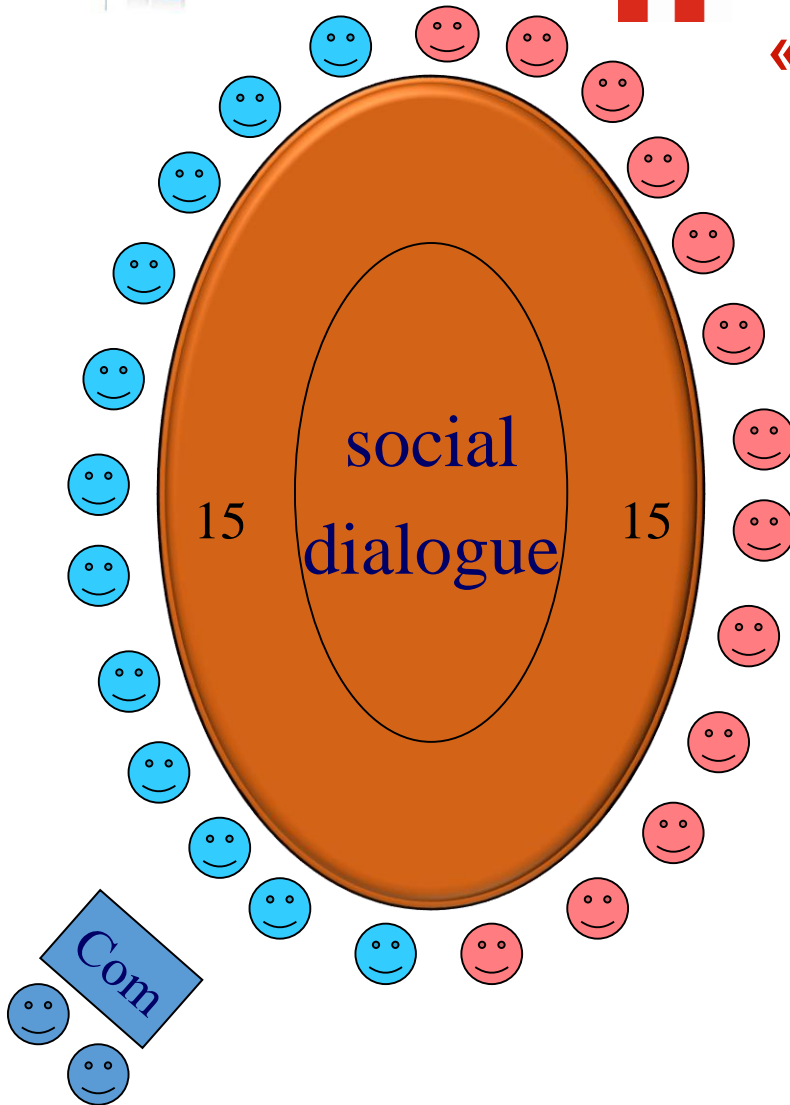
- Strong organisations
- Strong impact of Collective agreements
- Autonomous industrial relations
- Politically recognized
- Bi-partite structure
- Strong paritarian social funds

EU12

- Weak organisations
- Little or no impact of Collective agreements
- Limited autonomy
- Limited political recognition
- Tri-partite structure
- No or small paritarian social funds

European sectoral social dialogue – functioning

European Federation
of Building
and Woodworkers



The social partners « autonomy and responsibility »

- **decide on the rules of procedure of their dialogue**
- **decide on the level and rhythm of their dialogue**
- **decide on the content of their dialogue** (work programme + agenda of the meetings)
- **decide on the outcome of their dialogue**

Formal structure of the European Sectoral Social Dialogue in the construction industry

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FIEC

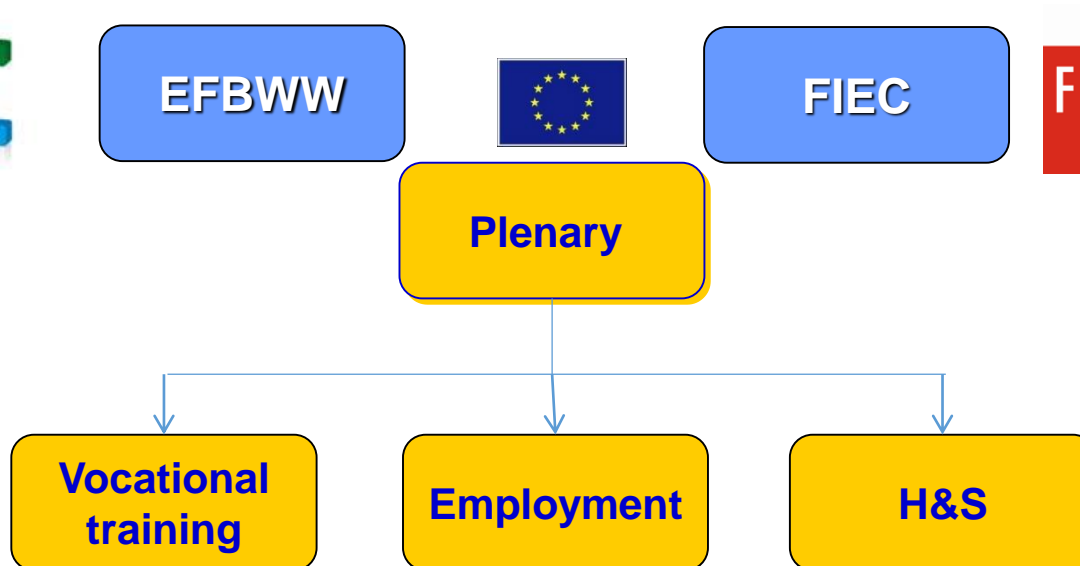


Plenary

Vocational
training

Employment

H&S





Aims of the social dialogue

- Developing joint positions on main topics for the benefit of the industry
- Coming to a social responsible and sustainable industry
- Influencing the European legislative process
- Strengthening capacity industrial relations at EU and national level



Critical notes:

- Joint statement “A new start for social dialogue” signed on 27 June 2016 by European Commission Vice-President Valdis Dombrovskis; Commissioner Marianne Thyssen, the ETUC, BUSINESSEUROPE, UEAPME, CEEP and the Dutch Presidency of the EU Council; However
- Since approx. 5 years the EC is consequently downsizing the facilities of the EESD (quantity before quality);
- The offered services and facilities by the EC do not meet the importance of the social partners of the construction industry;



So what happens:

- The social partners of the construction industry organise more often formal meetings outside the formal EESC structures
- The social partners of the construction industry take more often formal decisions outside the formal EESC structures
- The EFBWW and FIEC have decided to strengthen the ESSD with own resources and tools (cooperation agreement)



Some concrete outcomes:

- Common activities:
 - <http://www.posting-workers.eu/>
 - <http://paritarian-funds-construction.eu/>
 - <http://www.construction-for-youth.eu/EN/>
- Political actions
 - Joint position of the insurances, cleaning and construction SP on the proposed services e-card (2017)
 - Joint position on social fraud in construction (2016)
 - ...
- Common projects:
 - Social ID cards in construction
 - Empowering women in construction
 - Psycho social hazards in construction
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Werner Buelen

European secretary

European Federation of Building and Woodworkers

(EFBWW)

wbuelen@efbh.be