

Eurofound News



Issue 2 – February 2013

FINDINGS IN FIGURES

1,500 – the number of jobs telecommunications giant Ericsson will cut in Sweden by March 2013.

ERM quarterly – Issue 4, January 2013
www.eurofound.europa.eu/emcc/erm/index.php?template=quarterly

13% – the proportion of employees in European SMEs having a green job in 2012 (compared to 3% of employees in large companies).

Greening of industries in the EU: Anticipating and managing the effects on quantity and quality of jobs
www.eurofound.europa.eu/publications/htmlfiles/ef1248.htm

400,000 – the total number of hairdressing salons in the EU, whose workforce is affected by the EU-level agreement on health and safety in the sector, currently opposed by some Member States.

Unprecedented challenge to social dialogue in hairdressing sector
www.eurofound.europa.eu/eiro/2013/01/articles/eu1301011i.htm

62% – the proportion of cases of detected undeclared work in Slovakia in 2012 occurring in enterprises with between 1 and 9 employees.

Trends in undeclared work
www.eurofound.europa.eu/ewco/2012/11/SK12110291.htm

3,000 – the number of jobs to be created worldwide by aircraft manufacturer Airbus (45% of them in France) by end 2013.

ERM Factsheet Airbus
www.eurofound.europa.eu/emcc/erm/factsheets/23175

15% – the proportion of enterprises in Germany that support their employees in finding, organising or financing childcare, according to a company survey.

Survey looks at work and family life
www.eurofound.europa.eu/ewco/2012/10/EU12100111.htm

30% – the average rise in personal income tax in Portugal introduced by the government in January in an effort to reduce the budget deficit.

Constitutional Court to rule on controversial budget
www.eurofound.europa.eu/eiro/2013/01/articles/pt1301019i.htm

Start-ups: Strong potential for growth and jobs

Some new businesses go international rapidly after starting up. These ‘born global’ firms are seen as innovative and growth-oriented and therefore as having particularly strong potential for economic recovery and job creation.

At the same time, born global businesses face extra challenges in addition to those confronting any new business. As well as business start-up and product development, they take on the costly and complex process of building international markets, which can place heavy demands on them in terms of management expertise, commitment and capital. Despite their potential, there has been relatively little research into born global businesses and how best to support them. Eurofound has addressed this knowledge gap with a study that aims to describe and raise awareness of born globals. It examines existing public support schemes for business start-up, innovation and internationalisation and how well these match the needs of born globals. The report also suggests how support schemes – at both national and European level – can better support these start-up businesses and help them to achieve their potential.

Read the report at: <http://www.eurofound.europa.eu/publications/htmlfiles/ef1265.htm>

Impact of greening on job quality and quantity

Much has been made of the potential for job creation as businesses adopt green practices in response to climate change. However, evidence from the latest Eurofound research suggests that these hopes may have been unduly optimistic.

The findings indicate that while implementing green business practices seems to have redistributed jobs between sectors, it has had little impact on absolute employment levels. The reduction in public support as a result of the economic crisis has slowed down the pace of greening across industry in the EU. Case studies conducted as part of the research show that companies are finding it hard to balance the need to respond to climate change and the pressure to stay afloat in the crisis. They also show that in practice companies do not anticipate green change, but just manage it as the need arises. As for job quality, the study confirms that greening results in very few new occupational profiles but mostly stimulates the development of existing skill sets. The report *Greening of industries in the EU: Anticipating and managing the effects on quantity and quality of jobs* is available at:

www.eurofound.europa.eu/pubdocs/2012/48/en/1/EF1248EN.pdf

The database of company case studies from the research is available at:
www.eurofound.europa.eu/emcc/labourmarket/greening/search.php

NEWS IN PICTURES



Irish Taoiseach (Prime Minister) **Enda Kenny** and President of the European Commission **José Manuel Barroso** at the launch of the European Year of Citizens at Dublin City Hall on 10 January 2013, at which senior Eurofound staff were present.

Addressing the needs of vulnerable families

Eurofound participated in an Irish Presidency conference on vulnerable families, co-organised by the Confederation of Family Organisations in the EU (COFACE) and the Irish Countrywomen's Association (ICA), which took place in Dublin Castle on 4–5 February. The conference addressed the difficulties facing families struggling in the economic downturn and in a shrinking labour market. Debating the issues and challenges were NGOs, policymakers, public authorities and researchers. Eurofound Director Juan Menéndez-Valdés delivered one of the keynote speeches, while research Head Robert Anderson put forward possible solutions. Using recent Eurofound research on the topic, Research Officer Daniel Molinuevo made a presentation on 'Access to parenting services for Roma and migrant families'.

Debt crisis eases but challenges remain

The debt crisis in the euro zone seems to have slowed down, but unemployment is still rising and the overall economic outlook for the EU remains poor, according to the latest issue of the *European Restructuring Monitor (ERM) Quarterly*. More than 26 million Europeans were unemployed in November 2012, two million more compared to one year ago. Job losses are still more than two times higher than job gains, with internal restructuring accounting for almost 70% and closure for 18% of job losses. The periodical investigates how this negative trend plays out in Sweden, following on from impressive growth over the previous two years. It examines support measures offered by the government, social partners and NGOs in Ireland to enterprises undergoing restructuring. There is also a focus on the European print media, where falling circulation and technological changes are squeezing the sector.

Read more at <http://www.eurofound.europa.eu/publications/htmlfiles/ef1308.htm>

Social partners exchange views on wages

Wage-setting in Member States has come under pressure in recent times, due to recessionary brakes, austerity policies and growing unemployment. In February 2013, the European Employment Committee and DG Employment invited the European and national-level social partners to exchange views on current developments in the area. While the social partners were critical of the format and felt that the autonomy of the national level should be preserved, the meeting provided an opportunity to exchange positions and practices on wage developments, productivity and wage inequalities. Eurofound contributed to the debate with a paper analysing current developments and policy responses in Member States concerning collective bargaining and wage-setting, as well as the mechanisms for establishing minimum wages. It also touches briefly on the implications of the crisis for the so-called 'working poor'.

Read the Eurofound paper at <http://www.eurofound.europa.eu/publications/htmlfiles/ef1307.htm>

Youth disengagement and unemployment

Eurofound is organising a seminar in conjunction with the European Youth Forum in the European Parliament on the issue of 'Youth disengagement in the context of youth unemployment'. Taking place in the European Parliament on 28 February, the seminar will analyse Eurofound's October 2012 report on NEETs – young people 'not in employment, education or training'. The report investigated the economic and social consequences of young people's disengagement from the labour market and education. Targeted at policymakers, government representatives, social partners and youth groups, the seminar represents a unique opportunity for a broad public discussion on Eurofound's findings on NEETs. The debate will address youth unemployment policy responses, in light of the Youth Employment Package and the European Commission proposal for a Council Recommendation on Youth Guarantees.

Read more about Eurofound's research on NEETs at: <http://www.eurofound.europa.eu/emcc/labourmarket/youth.htm>

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Active inclusion of young people with disabilities or health problems



www.eurofound.europa.eu/publications/htmlfiles/ef1226.htm

PUBLICATIONS

«Born global»: le potentiel de création d'emplois des nouvelles entreprises internationales – Synthèse

www.eurofound.europa.eu/publications/htmlfiles/ef12651_fr.htm

ERM Quarterly – Issue 4, 2013

www.eurofound.europa.eu/publications/htmlfiles/ef1308.htm

Foundation Focus No.12: Job creation, job preservation or job loss? The future of Europe's labour market

www.eurofound.europa.eu/publications/htmlfiles/ef1277.htm

Greening of industries in the EU: Anticipating and managing the effects on quantity and quality of jobs

www.eurofound.europa.eu/publications/htmlfiles/ef1248.htm

Van crisis naar herstel: Beter onderbouwd beleid voor een concurrerend en eerlijk k Europa

www.eurofound.europa.eu/publications/htmlfiles/ef1252_nl.htm

Wages: A working conditions and industrial relations perspective

www.eurofound.europa.eu/publications/htmlfiles/ef1307.htm

Working time and work–life balance in a life course perspective

www.eurofound.europa.eu/publications/htmlfiles/ef1273.htm

Eurofound on your mobile

Foundation Forum 2013 - Social and employment policies for a fair and competitive Europe



<http://www.eurofound.europa.eu/events/2013/forum2013/index.htm>