

Meeting of the EURES Coordination Group

30-31 May 2022
Meeting summary



An EURES Coordination Group (ECG) meeting was held on the 30 and 31 May 2022 in Lyon. The format of the meeting was hybrid, both in person and with a live online transmission. This ECG meeting was the first one being held partially in person since the beginning of the COVID-19 crisis. As per the EURES Regulation, it brought together the different European actors involved in the field of the free movement of workers: the European Labour Authority (ELA) as the “EURES Coordination Office” (ECO), the European Commission (more specifically DG EMPL) and the EURES National Coordination Offices (NCOs). According to the EURES Regulation, this group acts as a “platform for the exchange of information and for the sharing of best practices, in particular regarding the development and dissemination across the EURES network of appropriate information and guidance to workers, including frontier workers, and employers”. This meeting was the opportunity for the ECG to discuss the latest developments in EU labour mobility and to provide updates on ECO’s activities.

France holding the Presidency of the Council of the European Union, the French NCO hosted the meeting. The French NCO provided a presentation on the current developments of their labour market. In particular, it explained the ‘*Contrat d’engagement jeune*’, an initiative recently created to help young people find a job.

In view of the latest geopolitical context with the conflict in Ukraine, a section of the meeting was dedicated to discuss how the EURES network can best support the Ukrainian citizens fleeing the war in Ukraine. Several NCOs shared their approach to facilitate the registration of Ukrainian refugees to the Public Employment Services (PES). The importance to share best practices in this regard and the need for the European Commission to provide more guidelines with regards to how Ukrainian refugees could benefit from EURES services were stressed by the NCOs.

The European Commission highlighted a few upcoming initiatives relevant for the EURES network. In particular, the “EU talent pool”, aiming at making the EU more attractive for non-EU nationals, will be launched mid-2023. An EU barometer on the impact of Brexit and COVID-19 on EU citizens will be launched in June and half of the Member States have committed to introduce the ALMA (Aim, Learn, Master, Achieve) initiative in their country.

A series of updates related to interoperability, EURES trainings, Programming Cycle and Performance Measurement System were also presented by ELA and DG EMPL. In particular, ELA is starting the development of a new strategy for the EURES Portal for 2023-2030, on which NCOs and all stakeholders relevant to the Portal will be consulted in the coming weeks. Next to that, discussions were held on the EU-Login implementation, on the abuse assessment process related to the EURES Portal and the data processing agreement. The obligation for the countries to adopt the ESCO (European Skills, Competences, and Occupations) classification was reiterated and ELA presented to the ECG participants the new EURES branding with its different templates and the new trainings available to NCOs. The next EURES in Action event will be held in June in Rome, with 100 onsite and 500 online participants. The next report on Labour Shortages and Surpluses will also be revamped in view to become more reader-friendly and to include more qualitative insights.

Finally, ELA presented the main findings from the bilateral meetings that ECO held throughout the year with the NCOs. A number of recommendations stemming from these meetings were highlighted, on which ELA is currently acting upon in order to improve EURES services.

The next ECG Meeting is scheduled to take place in Prague on 14, 15 and 16 November 2022, as part of programme of the Czech Presidency of the Council of the European Union.