



Fifteenth meeting of the European Labour Authority Working Group on Information

Strategic meeting

1 December 2022

- Summary of Deliberations -

The ELA Working Group on Information met for the 15th time on 1 December 2022. The meeting was held in online format on Webex.

The purpose of the strategic meeting was to give an overview of the current and past activities, as well as to provide the participants with an outlook for the future.

The summary of deliberations of the previous meeting was adopted by the Working Group in this meeting.

The agenda for this meeting was adopted by the Working Group and covered the following items, the main results of which are reported as follows:

1. Road transport

ELA informed the Working Group about the local information events organised in 2022 and invited the group to discuss lessons learnt and way forward in 2023, including a comparison of onsite and online formats. ELA described the aim of the events, disseminating information on the posting of drivers and driving and resting time, to reach operators and drivers in the road transport sector directly either onsite or online. The first event took place in Romania on 16 October in conjunction with the launch of ELA's social media campaign Road to Fair Transport (#Road2FairTransport), onsite at a truck stop in Lugoj, Romania where 54 operators and 38 drivers were present. The Lithuanian event was held online on 29 November with 66 operators and 26 drivers present. An event in Riga is planned for 8 December, and a joint event between Germany and Poland is foreseen in 2023. ELA invited interested Member States to express interest to organise a local event. ELA embraced the need for further assessment and monitoring of the roadshow events, as pointed out by several participants.

The Authority gave an update on the ongoing awareness raising campaign Road to Fair Transport, with four campaign topics: posting of drivers, driving and resting times, enforcement activities, and the tachograph. Participants were invited to follow ELA's social media channels and to use the hashtag #Road2FairTransport, as well as the campaign materials made accessible

through the ELA campaign website. Participants welcomed the campaign activities and expressed their appreciation of the flyers, in particular.

ELA equally updated the Working Group on the reviews of the road transport sections of the Your Europe Portal and national websites for information on road transport and discussed with the group the way forward in 2023. According to the satisfaction survey circulated among participants, the process and the outputs are viewed positively and some of the suggestions have already been put into practice. The exercise remains open for future participation and volunteering Member States are welcome to express their interest.

2. Translation Facility

ELA provided a periodical update on the Translation Facility for Information, including an overview of the 2022 figures and an outlook for 2023. A satisfaction survey is planned for early 2023. ELA informed the group about an ongoing terminology project to ensure quality of translations. ELA reminded participants of the eligibility criteria. Social partners voiced their dissatisfaction about not being able to use the translation facility, pointing towards social partners' crucial role in providing information to workers. ELA informed that based on similar previous feedback, a legal assessment was done during summer 2022, confirming that the current founding Regulation limits access to the Translation Facility for Information to Member States.

3. Seasonal work and free movement of workers

ELA updated the participants on the two onsite workshops which took place on 18 October in Venice and on 8 November in Sofia under the pilot project for mutual learning and exchange on effective information provision in seasonal work across Member States. A third workshop is planned for 24 and 25 January 2023 in Bratislava. The workshops gather 60 experts from 10 Member States. ELA presented to the group the concept and objectives of the pilot project. Participants gave positive feedback regarding the workshops and useful contacts established, as well as the extension of the format to two days instead of one. Member State experts suggested considering a similar project for the construction sector. ELA thanked the experts for the feedback and support in designing the workshops.

Following the call for good practices, launched on 26 June on the ELA website, 20 applications were received, 11 of which concerned seasonal work. In a next step, these good practices will be elaborated, based on their effectiveness, transferability, sustainability, innovativeness and digitalisation and formulated in good practice fiches, to be ready within one year. During the discussion ELA clarified that non-digitalisation will not result in elimination of an example of good practice, and criteria might be further revised. ELA shared that a new call will be opened in 2023 focusing on the construction sector.

ELA updated the group on the structure and timeline for a survey on the availability of stakeholder exchange fora on transnational labour mobility. The questionnaire rollout is foreseen for early 2023. ELA extended the invitation to the Working Group to participate and disseminate the survey.

4. Information provision through a web hub

ELA described the aim of creating a web hub aggregating existing information in one place, as called for in the ELA founding Regulation. The hub shall provide tailored sections for different target groups, cover different kinds of labour mobility, be available in multiple languages, and facilitate information on specific topics. It aims at bringing the information to the information seeker, probably by using advanced technologies, to reduce users' efforts in identifying and accessing the information they look for. During the discussion, several participants asked for clarification regarding the difference between the ELA web hub and Your Europe Portal / single digital gateway. ELA confirmed to continue to cooperate with Your Europe Portal and relevant stakeholders to ensure existing information and efforts are not duplicated. Ongoing activities such as the feasibility study on innovative digital information tools and the results of the awareness survey will feed into further development of the web hub concept. Participants were informed that ELA plans to involve Member States and social partners in the establishment of the concept/plan of the web hub in 2023 and asked for their support.

5. Posting of workers

ELA informed the Working Group that a final draft version of the booklet 'Lessons learnt for single national websites on the posting of workers' is to be expected by the end of January 2023, compiling the conclusions from 18 website peer reviews. The tentative deadline for the final version of the booklet is April 2023.

As construction will be ELA's focus sector in 2023, ELA presented 3 strands of activities for information provision in posting of workers in construction: (1) an information and awareness raising campaign, (2) events, and (3) a good practice call. Social partners confirmed their continued support in the campaign design phase. Both the Member States and social partners stressed the need for information on occupational safety and health.

The Commission informed the Working Group that it will work with the Member States on a voluntary basis to devise a common form for the declaration on the posting of workers, in an electronic format, whilst respecting national systems. Member States are invited to take part in the design and operational process. During the discussion, social partners highlighted the topic of data protection, namely that workers need to have access to their data and need to be notified when their data is being exchanged.

6. Information provision for displaced persons from Ukraine

A representative from Czechia shared lessons learnt regarding effective communication to people fleeing Ukraine with the Working Group members, including cooperation models between stakeholders and effective modalities of information dissemination.

ELA informed participants about the EU Talent Pool Pilot information campaign. The target audience of the campaign includes jobseekers, EU employers, and stakeholders. Key messages focus on the needs of the job seekers, the safety of using the EU Talent Pool Pilot in protecting their personal data, and the usefulness of the EU Talent Pool Pilot in facilitating mobility. All communication deliverables will be shared and can be adapted by Member States to their own

needs. Participation is voluntary and the measures and implementation are to be decided by the Member States.

ELA updated the participants on the mapping exercise on national measures in the field of access to employment and social security for displaced persons coming from Ukraine. The main goal of the exercise is to provide an overview of national measures regarding employment and social security for beneficiaries of temporary protection, in the form of country fiches. Two updates to the fiches are planned for 2023, of which the first is due in February/March. Fiches can be found on the ELA website. The group was encouraged to use their own channels to distribute the information. Links to updated fiches will be shared with the Working Group when available.

7. Working Group organisation

Following the request for fewer meetings and better coordination, the tentative calendar – including three meetings – has been included in the meeting documents. A thematic meeting on construction is planned for March, while the strategic meetings are likely to take place in June and in November / December. Participants pointed towards possible overlaps with national public holidays.

8. AOB and closing remarks

ELA informed the participants of the launch of a survey in November. With this survey run among national social partners, ELA aims to learn how aware social partners, workers and employers are about EU labour mobility services, what they appreciate about them, and what is missing or should be improved. A corresponding awareness survey has also been disseminated among the EURES network.