

Ever since 1999 the OSE has published an annual volume entitled “Social Developments in the European Union” in collaboration with the European Trade Union Institute. Our publications, as well as the studies to which our researchers contribute, are renowned for being among the best in Europe in their field.

OSE researchers participate in major research projects and publications while also helping to develop a variety of in-house resources:

- our website (www.ose.be, in English and French) is a valuable source of up-to-date information on OSE projects, publications, events and staff;
- our two-monthly OSE Newsletter (www.ose.be/newsletter);
- our European Health Care Newsletter (in English, French and Dutch) provides summaries of current EU developments that might affect national health care systems;
- our Working Paper series encompasses three different publications - “Research”, “Briefing” and “Opinion” papers - written by the research team as well as our research associates and outside scholars;
- our Lunchtime Sessions, at which academics, policymakers and stakeholders shed light on issues topping the EU agenda before an audience of OSE researchers and their guests.



Ose
European
Social
Observatory

rue Paul Emile Janson 13
1050 Brussels
phone: 32 (0)2 537 19 71
fax: 32 (0)2 539 28 08

website: www.ose.be

European Social Observatory

The European Social Observatory (OSE) is a centre for research, information and training. It specialises in the social dimension of the European Union (EU), its mission being to analyse the impact of European integration on social and employment policies both at EU level and within the Member States. By conducting research, formulating policy proposals and producing training toolkits, the OSE lays the foundations for critical analysis of European integration. It has a forward-looking approach and operates as a think-tank, identifying issues as they emerge. The Observatory has organised several high-profile international conferences, especially during Belgium's presidencies of the European Union. It works closely with the Belgian and European public authorities, as well as with trade unions and civil society organisations.

The OSE, which was founded in 1984, draws upon a broad-based network of think-tanks, academic and other researchers, European and national trade unionists, social partner representatives and other social stakeholders. Its team of researchers and analysts – bolstered by research associates and by interns from all over Europe and North America – is multidisciplinary and multilingual. The OSE is therefore able to grasp the full complexity of Europe. This variety of expertise, together with its independent approach, constitutes one of the Observatory's greatest strengths.

Over the years, the Observatory has become a focal point for anyone in search of unbiased information on the social dimension of European integration and the policies affecting it. The OSE is a unique forum for dialogue on the future of social Europe, as it is outward-looking in general and engages with public authorities, universities, trade unions and social organisations in particular. The OSE is likewise a partner in several European Framework Programmes and is actively involved in some major networks of academic excellence in Europe and North America.

The OSE has amassed multidisciplinary expertise in cross-cutting areas such as economic and monetary union and its impact on the social dimension of European integration, institutional issues and the EU's social policy-making mechanisms (including the open method of coordination, EU legislation and EU funding). More specifically, its expertise covers the following policy areas:

- education and training;
- employment and labour markets, restructuring and industrial change;
- gender and diversity;
- health care;
- institutional matters including citizenship;
- poverty and social exclusion;
- social dialogue;
- welfare systems and pensions.

