

ETUC standardisation newsletter - February 2023

Dear colleagues and friends,

The ETUC is pleased to send you its newsletter on standardisation that will keep you regularly updated on the ETUC's activities in the field of standardisation. It will deliver information on European and international standardisation direct to your desktop. If you wish additional information and/or documents related to the news mentioned below, feel free to contact us at standards@etuc.org.

ETUC participates in the High Level Forum on "Standardisation"



international standard is intended for companies, the public sector and other host organizations, individuals interested in or taking part in internships (either for students or non-students), higher education institutions, public authorities (including quality insurance agencies) and organizations working on quality for internships, etc. And it intends to set quality criteria and guidelines for effective and quality internships (both during and outside of education, and at national and transnational level), to guide the concerned parties in a win-win relation and to simplify the internship process for every type of structure. The [CEN Workshop Agreement 17541:2020 “European Criteria for Quality Internships”](#) – to which content the ETUC contributed with ETUC experts - will be used as the basis for this future international standard. The ETUC demands a binding directive on “internships”, which bans unpaid internships ([see ETUC press release of 10 November 2022](#)). National regulations on internships, and future EU rules, take precedence over a future international standard.

Vocabulary for Human Resource Management



The International Organisation for Standardisation, ISO, has published an international standard for vocabulary in Human Resource Management ISO 30400:2022. The work was carried out by ISO/TC 260, which is preparing a series of international standards in that domain. The ETUC participated in this work to help shaping some of the terms related to the workplace. union movement. While not fully satisfactory, compromises could be found on a range of ETUC demands based on ILO definitions, such as on social dialogue and a wider definition of the workplace.

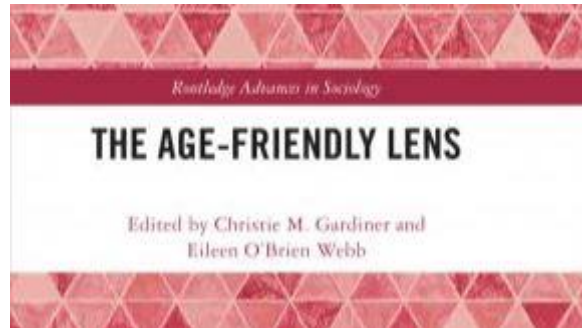
Proposed amendments to the IMCO report



European Parliament

The Internal Market and Consumer Protection (IMCO) committee published in November 2022, a draft [report](#) on 'A standardisation strategy for the Single Market' (2022/2058(INI)), produced by Rapporteur Mr. Adam Bielan (ECR, PL). Further to the efforts deployed in 2022 on the amendment to the Regulation EU (No) 1025/2012 on European standardisation, the ETUC prepared a set of amendments to the IMCO report that addresses specifically the standardisation strategy published by the European Commission a year ago. The ETUC again reached out to MEPs to discuss the report and our proposed amendments, which essentially focused on increased inclusiveness, the limits of standardisation in terms of what it cannot address, and the difference between standards and harmonised standards. The deadline for amendments on the report was 1 February. Most of the ETUC amendments were taken on board. The vote is planned to take place at the end of March.

Adriana Ciacaru - former ETUC youth committee vice president - has contributed to a new book on aging societies and ISO/TC 314 "Aging societies"



The European Trade Union Confederation represented by its expert, Adriana Ciacaru, has been involved in the process of development a new ISO standard in the field of ageing workforce. The published standard, ISO 25550, provides requirements and guidelines to achieve an age-inclusive workforce and includes provisions about social partners and other concepts and principles such as intergenerational collaboration, inclusiveness, decency of work, used in the trade union movement.

On this basis, A small group of experts was set up, including Adriana Ciacaru, the ETUC representative for ISO TC314 "Ageing societies", to expand on the work done and published a book chapter entitled International standardisation of products and services for ageing societies. The book, "*The Age-friendly Lens*", edited by Christie M. Gardiner and Eileen O'Brien Webb was released on the 15th of July 2022 and gathers different perspectives from authors and experts around the world on the topic of ageing.