

**47th Meeting of the Standing Committee on Health and Social Services
Thursday, 21 September 2017**

9:00-16:30

Brussels, ITUH, Room B

Boulevard du Roi Albert II, 5, 1210 Brussels

<http://www.epsu.org/article/2017-21-september>

ANNOTATED AGENDA (as of 12 September 2017)

Summary information on what needs to be done under the agenda items

- Documents are to be adopted under agenda items 2 and 3.
- Documents are to be noted under agenda items 2 and 5.1.
- Decisions are to be taken under agenda items 4, 5.4, 7.1, 7.2 and 8.1.
- Orientations for EPSU's work are to be given under agenda items 5.1 and 5.2.

1. Welcome, announcements, apologies

2. Adoption of the agenda

- The draft agenda (available in EN, FR, DE, ES, RU and SV) is to be adopted.
- The annotated agenda (prepared in EN, FR, DE, ES, RU and SV) is to be noted.

3. Adoption of minutes, 46th Meeting SC HSS, 14 March 2017, Brussels

- The draft minutes of the last SC HSS (in EN, FR, DE, ES, RU and SV) are to be adopted.

4. Thematic Seminar “Safe and adequate staffing levels”: Report ver.di-EPSU Workshop “Safe and adequate staffing in international comparison”, 16 November 2016, Berlin – Exchange of experiences: Input from EPSU affiliates – Building up an online platform for EPSU affiliates to facilitate an exchange of information and experiences: Objectives + concept

A detailed report from the ver.di-EPSU Workshop “*Personalmessung in Krankenhäusern im internationalen Vergleich*“, 16 November 2016, Berlin (for all presentations, the EPSU survey etc. see [page](#)) has been published in July 2017 in [DE with a summary in EN and FR](#). This documentation adds to a 3-page report from the workshop elaborated by our expert Jane Lawless (available in [EN](#), [FR](#) and [DE](#)) and to her [proposals](#) for possible follow-up activities.

Taking up a request from the last SC HSS, the EPSU Secretariat has worked on a [proposal for an EPSU Online Platform „Safe and Effective Staffing“](#). Colleagues are asked to give feedback to the concept note and to decide to actually set the online platform up in the next months.

A number of presentations on recent trade union activities to promote and achieve safe and effective staffing levels will be given by colleagues from Finland, France, Germany and the UK.

Since the last SC HSS a number of strike actions and mobilisations by TU in HSS have taken place. Please read more details in articles covering e.g. [Austria](#), [France](#), [Ireland](#), [Latvia](#), [The Netherlands](#), [Norway](#), [Poland](#), [Sweden](#), and the [Ukraine](#). Other actions e.g. in [Germany](#) and the



[Ukraine](#) will follow in the week of 18 September 2017. Austrian and German colleagues on 12 September 2017 (*Tag der Pflege*) called for better pay and working conditions in elderly care.

5. EPSU & PSI Activities/Initiatives

5.1 Work Programme SC HSS: Update on projects EPSU and/or EPSU affiliates are involved in – Update on work done, on results achieved and on outstanding issues 2015-2017 + Assessment by EPSU affiliates – Exchange on thematic priorities for the years 2018 and 2019

Colleagues are invited to share their views on achievements already made/results obtained in the context of the [Work Programme SC HSS](#) and of the [Thematic Priorities Social Services](#). This “exercise” can then feed in the [first exchange on thematic priorities for EPSU’s future work in HSS to be reflected in the sectoral resolution HSS](#) for the EPSU’s 10th Congress in June 2019 (see below 5.2). This should also be done in light of the [PSI Programme of Action 2018-2022](#).

The EPSU Secretariat will upload two tables with the current Work Programme SC HSS and the current Thematic Priorities Social Services and mark in green work done, in yellow the tasks partially done and in red the topics not yet addressed/ outstanding issues.

5.2 EPSU Congress, 4-7 June 2019, Dublin: Updates on preparatory work – First exchange on resolution on health and social services

See above 5.1. Colleagues will also be informed about the relevant timelines and procedures to prepare resolutions for the next EPSU Congress and how they will be prepared in the SC HSS. For this purpose the EPSU Secretariat has prepared a [presentation](#) that will be referred to.

5.3 PSI Human Right to Health Campaign: Updates – **ILO Tripartite Sectoral Meeting “Improvement of Employment and Working Conditions in Health Services”**, 24-28 April 2017, Geneva: Report – PSI 30th World Congress, 31 October 2017-3 November 2017: **PSI Programme of Action 2018-2022:** Focus on health and social services

Baba Aye, PSI Policy Officer HSS, will cover these three items. He will focus the relevant parts for HSS in the [PSI Programme of Action 2018-2022](#) and refer to highlights of and progress made with the [PSI Campaign “Human Right to Health”](#). The [3rd Newsletter](#) was recently issued.

5.4 European Action Day against the privatisation, marketisation and commercialisation of health care, 7 April 2017: Information on main activities involving EPSU – Preparation for 2018

EPSU was involved in a number of [activities in the context of the 2nd European Action Day on World Health Day 2017 on 7 April 2017](#) and participated in a [conference at the EP on 6 or 7 June 2017](#). Colleagues are asked to share their opinion if they would like to see EPSU actively involved in the third edition on 7 April 2018 and if the envisage any own action on this day.

In spring 2017 the webpage [“Our health is not for sale”](#) was updated and improved. It should serve to collect and present further evidence. All EPSU affiliates are asked to fill in additional

information on trends in and effects of privatisation, marketisation and commercialisation activities in HSS and on related trade union activities to fight or address them.

6. Follow-up to Working Group “Social Services”, 20 September 2017

The next meeting of the WG Social Services on 20 September 2017 – all relevant documents are uploaded to this [page](#) – is built around three thematic fields (see DRAFT agenda, 2. to 4.).

- After the focus on “integrated care” at the last meeting we this time will have a guest speaker to inform us about the main objectives, activities and results of EU-level initiatives to push the de-institutionalisation of elderly, disability and child care. EPSU activities will be asked to come up with evidence on the impacts of this shift in the form of the provision of social services on the workforce and to identify the implications it might have for main fields of trade union work and for the organising of colleagues.
- Trade union work in the context of privatisation, marketisation and commercialisation of social services: The EPSU Discussion Paper presented to the last WG Social Services was updated based on input from various EPSU affiliates (and is currently translated into FR, DE, ES and SV). Two options on how to focus EPSU’s work in the future will be presented. A second aspect is EPSU’s work with affiliates and with other civil society organisations to promote socially-responsible public procurement. Thirdly updates on EU-level initiatives by CEN for EU-level standardisation/technical standards in health and elderly care services will be given. Lastly we will inform on a new EUROFOUND report (September 2017) that had initially focused on the role of private (profit and not-for-profit) providers in residential care. EPSU made comments on a draft version.
- Promotion of social dialogue in social services: The main purpose here is to share relevant updates on the PESSIS III Project and on the project proposal PESSIS+. Colleagues will be asked to orient EPSU’s input into the final conference of PESSIS III on 20 October 2017 that will coincide with the launch of the “Federation of European Social Employers”. We will exchange on priority topics for EPSU affiliates should the PESSIS+ project (2018-2019) be approved by the EC (decision expected for November).

EPSU’s work to set up European Work Councils in the field of health and social services did well advance with meetings in Brussels with colleagues from A, B, CH, D, F, E and I, the first focusing on [ORPEA](#) on 4 and 5 May 2017, the second on [KORIAN](#) on 5 and 6 September 2017.

7. Sectoral Social Dialogue in the Hospital Sector (SSDC HS)

7.1 Continuing professional development (CPD) and life-long learning (LLL): HOSPEEM-EPSU Conference “Working together, learning together – Switching to the learning mode”, 19 and 20 June 2017, Amsterdam: Updates and assessment – EPSU key messages and priorities for future work in the context of the SSDC HS

Colleagues are invited to share their assessment of the [first event](#) in the context of the current [joint project with HOSPEEM](#). They are asked to confirm the priority issues for EPSU’s future work on CPD (selecting from a [list of points](#) established in spring 2017 or adding there still other points). Closely linked to this task the EPSU Secretariat will present proposals for future action points for EPSU and in the context of the SSDC HS (also to reply to the question “What do we want to get out from the project on CPD?”) on which a decision/orientation should be taken.

The Presidential Team SC HSS will come up with a proposal on a procedure to firm up decision making on joint documents and other outcomes agreed upon in the context of the SSDC HS.

7.2 Occupational health and safety at the workplace (OSH): Take home messages project 2014-2016 – Exchange on thematic priorities and objectives for EPSU for conference on the prevention, management and reduction of muscular-skeletal disorders (MSD) and psycho-social risks at the workplace (PSRS@W), 23 and 24 May 2018, Vilnius and in view of future initiatives on MSD and PSRS@W with HOSPEEM

Building on the [“Summary Document”](#) from the last joint project with HOSPEEM on MSD and PSRS@W – available in six languages – colleagues are asked to share they views on which concrete actions EPSU should suggest to HOSPEEM to work upon and on which aspects the second conference on MSD and PSRS@W on 23 and 24 May 2018 in Vilnius should focus. EPSU Secretariat will present [proposals for action points](#) for EPSU [regarding MSD, PSRS@W and the prevention or reduction of injuries with medical sharps to give orientation for EPSU’s work and for the Steering Group on OSH on 11 October 2017.](#)

Three documents published on 10 January 2017 – the [Communication \(2017\) 12](#), the EC [evaluation](#) and EC proposals for EU legislative and policy initiatives in the field of occupational health and safety (OSH) and a [guide for employers](#) – constitute the EC framework for future work on OSH not least in the context of the SSDC HS. The second document contains relevant information on EC proposals to review the biological agents directive (2000/54/EC), the medical sharps directive (2010/32/EU) and the directive on the handling of manual loads (90/269/EEC).

8. EU Policy and Legal Initiatives

8.1 Proposal of EC Directive on a proportionality test before adoption of new regulation of professions (COM(2016)0822) final/2, 20 January 2017: Main contents – EP Report – Presentation and agreement on EPSU position – Context: “Services Package”

Colleagues will be informed about the state of play of the parliamentary work in the EP on this legislative proposal and on EPSU’s related policy and lobbying activities (as elaborated on in the [EPSU Briefing including suggested amendments to the IMCO Report](#), also in coordination with other professional organisations). They will be [asked to agree on an/the EPSU position.](#)

9. AOB & Dates of next meetings/events

The dates of the forthcoming meetings in 2017 are included in the draft agenda. A regularly updated complete overview of relevant dates can be accessed on the following [page](#).

10. Background information on issues **NOT** covered at the SC HSS due to time reasons

Documents and links on the issues included here will not be dealt with at the meeting due to time constraints.



Colleagues interested in a particular topic can, however, ask questions at the meeting or by e-mail prior to the meeting.

More detailed information is provided only for the first three bullet points.

Directive 2003/88/EC on Working Time (WTD): EC Implementation Report WTD & EC Interpretative Communication on WTD, 26 April 2017

EPSU will hold an Advisory Group on 26 October 2017 in Brussels to share updates on the dossier with affiliates, to collect information on persisting problems with specific provisions of the WTD and with the enforcement of the existing rules and to agree EPSU's future strategy.

Revision of EU Health and Safety Directives (EC Package, 10 January 2017)

See also above 7.2. The EPSU Secretariat recommends colleagues to have a look into the guidance for employers issued by the EC "Safer and Healthier Work for All – Modernisation of the EU OSH Legislation and Policy" in order to assess how this document could be best used "back home" and vis-à-vis HOSPEEM for the further work on MSD and PSRS@W in particular.

Feasibility Study on a Common Training Framework (CTF) for Health Care Assistants (FS CC4HCA): Assessment of Final Report – Exchange and decision on format and focus of further work on issue

EPSU and HOSPEEM agreed to draft a joint letter to react to the final report of the [Feasibility Study](#) DG SANTE shared with the EPSU Secretariat in August 2017. The EPSU Secretariat has made a first assessment (see [e-mail](#) of 30 August 2017) and suggests referring to the joint letter of 12 August 2016 and including only some key points in the letter. It should underline EPSU's and HOSPEEM's support to the recommendation (already formulated in this presentation by [NIVEL](#)) not to pursue – for the time being – any action towards elaborating a CTF for HCA.

Mathias Maucher
Brussels
12 September 2017