

## Sectoral Social Dialogue Committee for the Hospital and Healthcare Sector

### Main activities and outcomes in 2019

In 2019 the Sectoral Social Dialogue Committee for the Hospital and Healthcare Sector (SSDC HS) dealt with a wide range of topics in the framework of the EPSU-HOSPEEM Joint Work Programme and carried out project-related activities that are presented below.

On 13 February 2019, at first Working Group of the SSDC HS, [HOSPEEM](#) and [EPSU](#) adopted the **Report** on the *“Follow-up on the Directive 2010/32/EU on the prevention from sharps injuries in the hospital and healthcare sector”*. The report provides information on the role and impact of the national social partners during relevant stages of the transposition and implementation of the Directive 2010/32/EU. In this context, [three brochures](#) were produced, targeted to Social Partners, EU Institutions and Agencies and national bodies within the EU Member States. The Secretariats also met with representatives of the Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, Unit for Health and Safety in Luxembourg, presenting the report and exchanged on future possible activities to address still existing problems as highlighted in the document. At the end of 2019, the Sectoral Social Dialogue Committee established the first contact with the Secretary of the Senior Labour Inspectorate Committee (SLIC) and is now in the process of exploring the possibility to present the report in at the SLIC working group for Strategic Management / Enforcement in early 2020. In addition, the European social partners have reached out to the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA) to discuss the report and to explore possible joint initiatives.

With the financial support of the European Commission, a new joint [EPSU-HOSPEEM](#) project on social partners' capacity building was launched in January 2019 in the field of sectoral social dialogue capacity building: **“Strengthening social dialogue in the hospital sector in the East, South and Central Europe”** (2019-2020). A detailed description of the project can be found on both [HOSPEEM](#) and [EPSU](#) website.

The project provides an appropriate framework to address the capacity building needs of social partners. The work serves to help building the capacity of the hospital sectoral social partners in 14 targeted countries: Bulgaria, Hungary, Poland and Romania, Cyprus, Greece, Italy, Malta, Portugal and Spain, Croatia, Czech Republic, Slovakia and Slovenia, by exchanging on and collecting the relevant topics and priorities in view of the EU level sectoral social dialogue. It is instrumental to discuss and evaluate the core priorities and outcomes of the sectoral dialogue between EPSU and HOSPEEM for the targeted regions, and to assist in feeding into the SSDC HS the social dialogue interests and important topics in a “bottom-up” process to support the aim of building capacity.

In the project's framework, [HOSPEEM](#) and [EPSU](#) held the kick-off meeting in Brussels in March 2019 and the [first Regional Workshop](#), dedicated to Eastern Europe was organised in Bucharest, Romania in June and hosted by the EPSU Romanian affiliate [SANITAS](#). The [second Regional Workshop](#), dedicated to Southern Europe was held in Rome in November 2019 and hosted by the Italian HOSPEEM Member [ARAN](#), in cooperation with [FIASO](#) and [INMI](#) Spallanzani. The third Regional Workshop is planned in Zagreb in June 2020 and the Dissemination Workshop in Brussels in winter 2020.

In spring 2019, on request by the Health Workforce Department of the World Health Organisation, the SSDC drafted a policy brief outlining the link between the EPSU-HOSPEEM Code of Conduct on Ethical Cross Border Recruitment and Retention in the Hospital Sector and the WHO Global Code of Practice on the International Recruitment of Health Personnel in light of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Review of the Code Relevance and Effectiveness. The HOSPEEM and EPSU Secretariats were invited to present the draft entitled **“The Role of Social Partners in Promoting Fair Recruitment Practices and Safeguarding Decent Working Conditions”** at the Expert Advisory Group meeting for the 2nd Review of Code Relevance and Effectiveness in Geneva on June 18-19 June 2019. The policy brief is expected to be published in autumn 2020.

To assess the use and the implementation of the [Joint Declaration on Continuing Professional Development and Life-Long -Learning for all Health Workers in the EU](#) adopted in 2016, HOSPEEM and EPSU Secretariats started collecting good practice examples of CPD and or LLL that could include, but are not limited to: effective CPD, inter-professional cooperation and skills development, funding of CPD, innovative workplace learning, CPD for new models of care and new professional roles, and CPD related to the digitalisation of health care. The publication of the good practices on HOSPEEM and EPSU websites is expected at the beginning of 2020.