

Public consultation on EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work

Fields marked with * are mandatory.

Introduction

The aim of this open public consultation is to take stock of the quality and implementation of the Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work 2014-2020 and to receive input for the future Strategic Framework 2021-2027.

For further information, we kindly refer you to the current Strategic Framework, which can be accessed in your own language [here](#).

This open public consultation will be available for 12 weeks from 7 December to 1 March 2021.

About you

* Language of my contribution

- Bulgarian
- Croatian
- Czech
- Danish
- Dutch
- English
- Estonian
- Finnish
- French
- German
- Greek
- Hungarian
- Irish
- Italian
- Latvian

- Lithuanian
- Maltese
- Polish
- Portuguese
- Romanian
- Slovak
- Slovenian
- Spanish
- Swedish

* I am giving my contribution as

- Academic/research institution
- Business association
- Company/business organisation
- Consumer organisation
- EU citizen
- Environmental organisation
- Non-EU citizen
- Non-governmental organisation (NGO)
- Public authority
- Trade union
- Other

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* Surname

Cattarin

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* Organisation name

255 character(s) maximum

The European Association of Paritarian Institutions (AEIP)

* Organisation size

- Micro (1 to 9 employees)
- Small (10 to 49 employees)
- Medium (50 to 249 employees)
- Large (250 or more)

Transparency register number

255 character(s) maximum

Check if your organisation is on the [transparency register](#). It's a voluntary database for organisations seeking to influence EU decision-making.

69133399372-91

* Country of origin

Please add your country of origin, or that of your organisation.

- | | | | |
|---|--|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Afghanistan | <input type="radio"/> Djibouti | <input type="radio"/> Libya | <input type="radio"/> Saint Martin |
| <input type="radio"/> Åland Islands | <input type="radio"/> Dominica | <input type="radio"/> Liechtenstein | <input type="radio"/> Saint Pierre and Miquelon |
| <input type="radio"/> Albania | <input type="radio"/> Dominican Republic | <input type="radio"/> Lithuania | <input type="radio"/> Saint Vincent and the Grenadines |
| <input type="radio"/> Algeria | <input type="radio"/> Ecuador | <input type="radio"/> Luxembourg | <input type="radio"/> Samoa |
| <input type="radio"/> American Samoa | <input type="radio"/> Egypt | <input type="radio"/> Macau | <input type="radio"/> San Marino |
| <input type="radio"/> Andorra | <input type="radio"/> El Salvador | <input type="radio"/> Madagascar | <input type="radio"/> São Tomé and Príncipe |
| <input type="radio"/> Angola | <input type="radio"/> Equatorial Guinea | <input type="radio"/> Malawi | <input type="radio"/> Saudi Arabia |
| <input type="radio"/> Anguilla | <input type="radio"/> Eritrea | <input type="radio"/> Malaysia | <input type="radio"/> Senegal |
| <input type="radio"/> Antarctica | <input type="radio"/> Estonia | <input type="radio"/> Maldives | <input type="radio"/> Serbia |
| <input type="radio"/> Antigua and Barbuda | <input type="radio"/> Eswatini | <input type="radio"/> Mali | <input type="radio"/> Seychelles |
| <input type="radio"/> Argentina | <input type="radio"/> Ethiopia | <input type="radio"/> Malta | <input type="radio"/> Sierra Leone |

- Armenia
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- Bahrain
- Bangladesh
- Barbados
- Belarus
- Belgium
- Belize
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- Bhutan
- Bolivia
- Bonaire Saint Eustatius and Saba
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Botswana
- Bouvet Island
- Brazil
- British Indian Ocean Territory
- British Virgin Islands
- Falkland Islands
- Faroe Islands
- Fiji
- Finland
- France
- French Guiana
- French Polynesia
- French Southern and Antarctic Lands
- Gabon
- Georgia
- Germany
- Ghana
- Gibraltar
- Greece
- Greenland
- Grenada
- Guadeloupe
- Guam
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- Guinea
- Guinea-Bissau
- Guyana
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- Nepal
- Netherlands
- New Caledonia
- New Zealand
- Nicaragua
- Niger
- Singapore
- Sint Maarten
- Slovakia
- Slovenia
- Solomon Islands
- Somalia
- South Africa
- South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands
- South Korea
- South Sudan
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- Tanzania
- Thailand
- The Gambia

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- Bulgaria
- Burkina Faso
- Burundi
- Cambodia
- Cameroon
- Canada
- Cape Verde
- Cayman Islands
- Central African Republic
- Chad
- Chile
- China
- Christmas Island
- Clipperton
- Cocos (Keeling) Islands
- Colombia
- Comoros
- Congo
- Cook Islands
- Costa Rica
- Côte d'Ivoire
- Croatia
- Haiti
- Heard Island and McDonald Islands
- Honduras
- Hong Kong
- Hungary
- Iceland
- India
- Indonesia
- Iran
- Iraq
- Ireland
- Isle of Man
- Israel
- Italy
- Jamaica
- Japan
- Jersey
- Jordan
- Kazakhstan
- Kenya
- Kiribati
- Kosovo
- Kuwait
- Nigeria
- Niue
- Norfolk Island
- Northern Mariana Islands
- North Korea
- North Macedonia
- Norway
- Oman
- Pakistan
- Palau
- Palestine
- Panama
- Papua New Guinea
- Paraguay
- Peru
- Philippines
- Pitcairn Islands
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- Portugal
- Puerto Rico
- Qatar
- Réunion
- Romania
- Timor-Leste
- Togo
- Tokelau
- Tonga
- Trinidad and Tobago
- Tunisia
- Turkey
- Turkmenistan
- Turks and Caicos Islands
- Tuvalu
- Uganda
- Ukraine
- United Arab Emirates
- United Kingdom
- United States
- United States Minor Outlying Islands
- Uruguay
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- Vatican City
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- Liberia
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- Rwanda
- Saint Barthélemy
- Saint Helena Ascension and Tristan da Cunha
- Saint Kitts and Nevis
- Saint Lucia
- Wallis and Futuna
- Western Sahara
- Yemen
- Zambia
- Zimbabwe

The Commission will publish all contributions to this public consultation. You can choose whether you would prefer to have your details published or to remain anonymous when your contribution is published. **For the purpose of transparency, the type of respondent (for example, ‘business association, ‘consumer association’, ‘EU citizen’) country of origin, organisation name and size, and its transparency register number, are always published. Your e-mail address will never be published.** Opt in to select the privacy option that best suits you. Privacy options default based on the type of respondent selected

* Contribution publication privacy settings

The Commission will publish the responses to this public consultation. You can choose whether you would like your details to be made public or to remain anonymous.

Anonymous

Only organisation details are published: The type of respondent that you responded to this consultation as, the name of the organisation on whose behalf you reply as well as its transparency number, its size, its country of origin and your contribution will be published as received. Your name will not be published. Please do not include any personal data in the contribution itself if you want to remain anonymous.

Public

Organisation details and respondent details are published: The type of respondent that you responded to this consultation as, the name of the organisation on whose behalf you reply as well as its transparency number, its size, its country of origin and your contribution will be published. Your name will also be published.

I agree with the [personal data protection provisions](#)

GENERAL VIEWS ON OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH

The EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work 2014-2020 supports the promotion of high standards for occupational safety and health both within the EU and internationally. It aims to address the major health and safety at work challenges facing the EU through the implementation of a range of different actions at national and EU level. For more information, please see the Framework itself, which can be accessed in your own language [here](#).

In this section, we are interested to understand your level of engagement with the existing EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work 2014-2020 and hear your views on how the situation within your country and/or the EU has changed since 2014.

Are you involved in or do you contribute to the design and/or implementation of occupational safety and health (OSH) policy, legislation and/or other measures?
Please select what best applies to you.

- Yes, at EU level
- Yes at national or sub-national (regional, municipal) level
- Yes, I/my organisation are involved in OSH policy and/or legislation implementation in the workplace
- Yes, in another capacity
- No, not at any level

If chosen "Yes, in another capacity" please specify:

AEIP promotes the paritarian social protection schemes, which are schemes jointly established and managed by employers and trade unions on the basis of collective agreements. AEIP members provide different social protection services, such as pension, healthcare and paid holidays schemes. Many of them operate in the construction sector, hence are also responsible for providing training on health and safety as well as insurances in the case of accidents at work. Therefore, AEIP's members contribute to design and implement OSHA policy at national and sub-national level, while AEIP ensures that their demands are translated into policy actions at EU level.

Please answer the survey from your own perspective – for example based on the situation in your company, your country or, if you deal with occupational safety and health (OSH) issues at EU level, based on the situation in the EU as a whole.

Thinking about the situation in your country / the EU, has workplace safety and health in your opinion become better since 2014?

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neither Agree nor Disagree

- Strongly Disagree
- Don't know

Please specify why:

500 character(s) maximum

As of 2014, new regulations and directive were adopted, at EU and national level. For example, in 2014 the French assembly adopted a regulation to foster health and safety at work and more recently, in December 2020, social partners signed a national agreement on occupational health and safety to better integrate this at the workplace. While this is not necessarily a qualitative indicator, it certainly confirms the increasing attention and efforts to improve working conditions at the workplaces.

Do you agree or disagree that sufficient action has been taken since 2014 to ensure high level of protection of workers' health and safety by...

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't know
the European Parliament and the Council	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
the European Commission	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
national or regional authorities (ministries of employment, national institute for occupational safety and health (OSH), labour inspectorate, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
employers	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
employers' organisations at EU level	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
employers' organisations at national level	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
workers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
workers' organisations (trade unions, etc.) at EU level	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
workers' organisations (trade unions, etc.) at national level	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

* How familiar are you with the EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at work 2014-2020?

- Very familiar (I know it in detail)
- Somewhat familiar (I know certain aspects)

- Not familiar (or only to a very limited degree)

In your opinion, how important are the following priorities of the EU OSH Strategic Framework 2014-2020 in relation to the key occupational safety and health (OSH) issues faced in your country / the EU since 2014:

	Very Important	Important	Slightly Important	Not Important	Don't know
Better coordinate EU and international efforts to address OSH and engage with international organisations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Simplify existing OSH legislation	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Address health and safety issues, such as the ageing of the workforce, emerging new risks, prevention of work-related and occupational diseases	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Further consolidate national OSH strategies, aligning them with the EU OSH Strategic Framework	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Better enforcement of OSH legislation by EU Member States	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Facilitate compliance with OSH legislation, particularly by micro and small enterprises	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Improve statistical data collection and develop the information base on work related diseases and health issues	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

OVERALL OPINIONS AND VIEWS ON THE FUTURE OSH STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

In this section, we are keen to understand your views on what should be included in a new EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work. This includes questions around key challenges and objectives that should be addressed, the type of actions which should be included and what the main priorities of such a policy initiative should be.

In your view, did the EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work 2014-2020 contribute to improved health and safety at work at...

	To a great extent	Somewhat	Very little	Not at all	Don't know
EU level?	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
national level?	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

regional level?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
the workplace (for example in your organisation)?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please briefly explain why you believe the EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work 2014-2020 contributed – or not – to improved health and safety at work.

500 character(s) maximum

Having read the EU Framework for the purpose of this consultation, stakeholders who operate at national level remarked an alignment between the national objectives and those embedded in the Framework. However, they could not tell whether the EU framework effectively influenced the national process or if this was the mere result of national bargaining.

Thinking ahead to the next 7 years (2021-2027), how important do you think the following will be in terms of OSH policy and action at EU level to be included in a Strategic Framework?

	Important	Slightly Important	Not Important	Don't know
Promoting cooperation and coordination of OSH policies across policy areas, such as health, education, environment, chemicals etc.	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Supporting enforcement activities	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Development and dissemination of OSH guidance, good practices and other awareness raising activities	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Updating and adapting OSH related legislation	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
International cooperation and coordination of OSH policy	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Effective application of OSH legislation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Promoting social dialogue	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

In your view, has the Covid-19 pandemic increased or decreased the importance of any of the following OSH-related issues...

	Significantly Increased	Slightly Increased	Neither Increased not Decreased	Slightly Decreased	Significantly Decreased	Don't know
infectious disease prevention measures in the workplace, including where risk of infection is higher or in essential services	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
increase of teleworking / remote working / working from home and prevention of related risks	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
work-related psycho-social risks / ergonomic risks prevention	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
access to OSH related information	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
coordination among Member States in tackling the COVID-19 pandemic at the workplace	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
effective OSH measures for vulnerable groups of workers, such as seasonal, migrant, temporary or self-employed workers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
enforcement issues	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Thinking about the future (the next seven years), do you think a new EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work and its priorities should...

- remain broadly the same
- be fundamentally changed/adapted
- other
- be updated/adapted
- be discarded – there is no need for an EU-level OSH Framework

If chosen "Other" please specify:

500 character(s) maximum

AEIP supports the structure of the current Framework, so we believe that it should remain broadly the same. Yet, we would like to suggest including measures aimed at promoting the use of digital technology and increasing the sharing of OSHA-related data. This would be particularly useful for occupational provident schemes, which could better target their services to employers and employees. Overall, the Framework itself should recognize the role that such schemes can play in OSHA strategies.

Thinking ahead to the next 7 years (2021-2027): What are the key challenges that are common across the EU and require further OSH policy action? Please select up to four answers.

at most 4 choice(s)

- Risks from dangerous substances (e.g. chemicals / carcinogens)
- Promotion of international OSH policy collaboration dimension
- OSH risks emerging from ICT/digitalisation (increased digitalisation, AI, workers' surveillance, right to disconnect)
- OSH risks emerging from the rise of platform economy (gig-work, increased precarious and atypical work)
- Preparedness for future threats to workers' health and safety (e.g. infectious diseases)
- Increased working from home / teleworking
- OSH risks emerging from robotics/automation/new technologies
- Ergonomic risks and musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs)
- Other
- Psychosocial risks (increased work intensity, blurring of work-private life, etc.)
- OSH risks to specific socio-demographic groups (women, migrants, etc.)
- OSH risks emerging from nanotechnology/nanomaterials
- OSH risks emerging from climate and environmental change (such as infectious diseases)

What practical solutions do you suggest to address all or some of these key challenges?

2500 character(s) maximum

Today, OSHA policies are mainly managed at national level, where the state has a predominant role in designing and implementing the strategy related to occupational risks and prevention. Private occupational schemes are often neither consulted nor involved sufficiently in the process, despite the huge contribution they bring in this policy domain. In the case of paritarian provident funds, the untapped potential is even greater. In fact, by operating at sectorial and/or company level, these schemes have a deep knowledge of the main risks that characterize a sector and/or a company, therefore are in the position to provide targeted solutions both to employers and employees. Involving them would therefore have the twofold benefit of increasing the efficacy of OSHA policies and that of supporting the state in its mission. Hence, the first practical solution is to ensure a better inclusion of paritarian occupational schemes in the design and implementation process of the OSHA strategy. The European Commission should invite Member States to put in place such collaboration between the public and private stakeholders, namely between the state and occupational schemes. This would smooth the current silos-approach at national level, facilitate a collaboration and would result in a win-win situation for policy-makers, employers and employee. To this end, the European Commission should have a greater consideration of these schemes, which are often insufficiently recognized and, what is more, incorrectly compared to for-profit insurers providers. As a consequence, given that paritarian schemes are jointly established and managed by employers' organizations and trade unions, the second suggestion would be to strengthen the social value and re-affirm social bargaining as a fundamental process to elaborate public policies (including OSHA). Finally, as anticipated above, policy-makers should invest more financial resources to the deployment of digital services and better involve occupational schemes in the management of OSHA data. The management of data, and in particular the flow of these data between the schemes and the employers.

How important do you think it is that a new EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work covering the next seven years contributes to...

	Very Important	Important	Slightly Important	Not Important	Don't know
ensuring evidence-based policy	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
anticipating and managing change for better and longer working lives	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
improving the application of EU rules	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
promoting higher occupational safety and health standards in the world	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
preventing work-related diseases and accidents	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
improving OSH strategies at national level?	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Should a new EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work define in detail a list of objectives, actions, timelines and actors involved in the implementation of such actions, or should it set a vision for the future, and a definition of goals and priorities?

- Define in detail a list of objectives, actions, timelines and actors involved in the implementation of such actions
- Set a vision for the future, and a definition of goals and priorities
- Don't know

In your view, what main issues should be included in the successor to the current EU OSH Strategic Framework, covering the next seven years?

2500 character(s) maximum

The new OSH Strategic Framework should consider the impact that psychosocial factors have on work-related illnesses. While such factors are perhaps less evident than the physical ones, they have a huge impact on the professional performance of workers as well as on their personal life. Mental health requires protection especially in the new forms of work (e.g. platform workers, gig economy) and professional realities (smart/teleworking).

In fact, if on the one hand these forms of work might allow more flexibilities, on the other hand they blur the line between the professional and the personal life of workers. Therefore, the new framework should focus on the right to disconnect and on the prevention of psychosocial risks such as anxiety and stress.

This will be particularly important in light of the pandemic and the consequences it will have on our economies and societies. Loss of job and/or income are in fact often associated with increased depression, low-self-esteem and anxiety, which may lead to higher rates of mental disorders and even suicides.

You may share any additional remarks or statement(s) regarding the topic of this public consultation here.

NB: Remember to remove any personal information from these documents in case you have opted for publication of your contributions in an anonymised way.

500 character(s) maximum

Contact

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