

OSE Newsletter 1 – September 2009

/// FOREWORD

This year, after the summer break, the Observatoire social européen (OSE) is embarking on a period of intense activity and is reorganising its research and communication strategy. The OSE Newsletter is a new publication produced by our team to improve our communication toolkit and enabling us to inform other researchers, journalists, policymakers and stakeholders of our most recent activities. Our aim is to periodically (6 issues per year) shed light on the key products and events that characterise the OSE's work (covering both past and future months). The core part of each bulletin will provide basic information on recent and/or forthcoming publications by our team - articles in international journals, books, working papers etc. - as well as on events held in Brussels or elsewhere.

In other words, the OSE Newsletter is an 'open window' on the Observatoire social européen, its activities and its contribution to scientific and political debate on the social dimension of the European integration project. It is also an opportunity to initiate or revive the dialogue between our researchers and all those involved in social policy at national and EU level. Web links in the text of the newsletter will enable readers to access the OSE website and contact an individual researcher for more information.

In this first issue, as well as in future ones, the OSE Newsletter provides information on the multi-faceted activities of the OSE team and covers all the policy areas we investigate (from employment policy to social inclusion, from EU integration in the field of social protection to industrial relations). We also examine the various EU instruments shaping social policy (from the Open Method of Coordination to recent decisions of the European Court of Justice).

The OSE Newsletter is thus a tool that facilitates access to our work and makes us more open to interaction with those who have an interest in the social dimension of the EU.

We hope you will enjoy this first issue and keep in touch.

Pierre Jonckheer (President of the Board) and **David Natali** (OSE Scientific Coordinator)

Publications Update

The Lisbon strategy a decade on: a critical review of a multi-disciplinary literature

David Natali in Transfer 1/2009, ETUI

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Self-Governance through the Committees in the Open Method of Coordination: The Cases of Employment and Social Inclusion

Caroline de la Porte, David Natali and Philippe Pochet in Sorensen, E. and Triantafillou, P. (eds.), "The Politics of Self-Governance", Ashgate. 2009.

[More info...](#)

Earnings inequality and in-work poverty

Ramón Peña-Casas, with Rodolfo Gutiérrez Palacios and Ana Marta Guillén Rodríguez (University of Oviedo)
Working Papers on the Reconciliation of Work and Welfare in Europe, 07/2009, RECOWE

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Social developments in the European Union 2008

Edited by Christophe Degryse
ETUI and Observatoire social européen, Brussels, 2009.
Tenth edition of the key social developments of the year at EU level.

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Le sentenze Ruffert e Lussemburgo: la difficile conciliazione tra diritti sociali e libertà del mercato nell'Unione europea

Dalila Ghailani
in I percorsi della solidarietà. Lavoro, mercato e diritti nell'Unione europea, Edited by Marco Cilento. Quaderni Sindnova 24, 2009.

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The Open Method of Coordination and national social policy reforms in Belgium and France: window dressing, one-way impact, or reciprocal influence?

Marie-Pierre Hamel and Bart Vanhercke
in Changing European Employment and Welfare Regimes. The Influence of the Open Method of Coordination on National Reforms, Edited by Martin Heidenreich and Jonathan Zeitlin, Routledge, 2009, 256 p.

[More info...](#)

Brèves sur les soins de santé en Europe / Nieuws over gezondheidszorg uit Europa

No. 10 juin/juni 2009

[French version](#) [Deutch version](#)

Activities

International conference on "The challenge of social inclusion"

held in Athens on 16 July 2009 by the Scientific Society for Social Cohesion and Development. Ramón Peña-Casas delivered a keynote speech on "The working poor and unemployed in the EU: current situation and challenges in the context of crisis"

[Ramon Peña-Casas webpage...](#)

Forum of Federations - Committee of the Regions

On 22 June 2009 the Forum of Federations held a Round Table on "Cooperative Mechanisms and Intergovernmental Relations in the EU", which was hosted by the Committee of the Regions' Forward Studies Unit and focussed on the potential and challenges of multilevel governance. Bart Vanhercke spoke on "New prospects for the Open Method of Coordination". The round table formed part of the Forum of Federations' "Global Dialogue"

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European elections

Cécile Barbier presented the results of the European elections results at an IPSE

(Institut pour la protection sociale européenne) meeting held in Brussels on 18 June 2009

[Cécile Barbier webpage...](#)

State of Play of the EU

On 22 June 2009 Bart Vanhercke presented his views on the "State of Play of the European Project" at a 'training of trainers' session (Formation des formateurs pour l'Asbl Formation, Education, Culture). Starting from the Treaties of Paris and Rome, the training course covers topics such as the EU's influence on everyday life, the EU's democratic deficit, the tensions between social and economic integration, and the 'European Rescue of the Federal State'.

[Slides of the training session... \(in French\)](#)

Forthcoming events

10-11 Sept. 2009 Beyond the crisis: Developing sustainable alternatives

Ramón Peña-Casas will be the rapporteur of the Workshop on "Tackling income distribution and inequalities" at the Conference organised by ETUI on 10-11 September 2009.

[More info on ETUI website...](#)

17-19 Sept. 2009 7th Annual ESPAnet conference

David Natali (OSE) and Philippe Pochet (ETUI) are organising the stream on "Social Concertation in Europe: Actors, Institutional Dynamics and Welfare and Work Reforms" at the 7th Annual ESPAnet conference on "The future of the Welfare State". 17-19 September 2009, Institute of Sociology, University of Urbino, Italy Under the auspices of the European network for Social Policy Analysis (ESPAnet).

[More info on conference homepage](#)

30 Sept. 2009 The Gender Dimension of Job Quality

With a view to making known the activities of the European Network of Excellence on Reconciling Work and Welfare (RECWOWE), the Observatoire social européen will host a public debate on The Gender Dimension of Job Quality.

With Colette Fagan, Professor of Sociology and Co-Director of the European Work and Employment Research Centre, University of Manchester, and Maria Jepsen, Head of the Research Department, European Trade Union Institute. Brussels, 30 September 2009 - 12.30 - 15.00

[More info...](#)

The OSE in European Networks

RECWOWE Newsletter No. 7

Newsletter published with a view to making known the activities of the European Network of Excellence on Reconciling Work and Welfare (RECWOWE).

[More info...](#)

PROMeTHEUS - Health PROfessional Mobility in THE European Union Study

The OSE, as a country correspondent for this project, is in charge of collecting data and writing a detailed case-study on health professional mobility in Belgium.

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