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Green, pink and white: Can Europe still create jobs?

Brussels, 1-2 December 2014

Policy-makers often cite housing, transport and energy as being the sectors most likely to foster employment growth, but are their expectations justified? How will differences between European countries in terms of family values and ways of life influence the work opportunities available in the care sector? What are green jobs, and how are they created? How do companies and organisations cope with the skill challenges of elderly workers? How has the demand for skills changed and what trends can we determine for the future? These are some of the questions that NEUJOBS researchers will try to address during the final conference of the project, after four years of research, the publication of two books and more than 100 papers.

Practical Information

Date: Monday 1 December 2014, 12.00 – 18.00
Tuesday 2 December 2014, 9.00 – 14.00

Venue: BIP Brussels, Place Royale 10-11, 1000 Brussels
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#NEUJOBS

Green, pink and white: Can Europe still create jobs? NEUJOBS Final Conference

1 December 2014			
12:00 - 12:30	Registration		
12:30 - 13:30	Opening lunch		
13:30 - 14:00	Introductory remarks: Philippe Keraudren, Ilaria Maselli		
	Research in the spotlight	The social partners face-off	The Transatlantic face-off
14:00 - 15:30	Job creation in Europe. What does it take to create jobs in Europe in a ‘tough’ or a ‘friendly’ global scenario? Daniel Gros, Werner Eichhorst, Marina Fischer-Kowalski, Paul Zagamé	Future care needs: (how) can we still bridge the gap? Johannes Geyer, Michaela Gstrein, Maciej Kucharczyk, Mathias Maucher, Luk Zelderloo	Are jobs in Europe and the U.S. becoming greener? Nathalie Cliquot, Bert Colijn, Christian Egenhofer, Matthew Stepp
15:30 - 16:00	Coffee break		
16:00 - 17:30	The Roma labour market: a European problem or a European opportunity? Vera Messing, Mamta Murthi, Carolina Sanchez Paramo, Viola Zentai	Women’s employment : how well is Europe doing? Agnieszka Chłoń-Domińczak, Mary Collins, Claudia Menne, Karina Ransby	Are the elderly ready to be employed for longer? Kathleen Mullen, Izabela Styczynska, Mary Young
17:30 - 18:00	‘Ask me about’ & refreshments		
2 December 2014			
9:00 - 9:15	Registration		
9:15 - 11:00	Solving Europe’s unemployment problem with jobs in energy, transport sectors and housing. Possible? Arno Behrens, Christophe Heyndrickx, Nick Horsewood, Simon Upton	Europe’s green energy transition: jobs miracle or jobs killer? Béla Galgóczi, Willi Haas, Christian Kjaer	Are the skill needs for innovation changing? Linda Barrington, Miroslav Beblavý, Paolo Naticchioni, Mary Young
11:00 - 11:30	Coffee break		
11:30 - 12:45	The battle of Minds: moderated by Iain Begg. Marina Fischer-Kowalski, Philippe Lamberts, Bart van Ark, Viola Zentai		
12:45 - 13:00	Concluding remarks: Miroslav Beblavý, Marc Goffart		
13:00 - 14:00	Closing lunch		

Three Parallel Streams

During the two half-days, there will be three parallel streams, each with three sessions of one-and-a-half hours, bringing together around 30 participants. The sessions are organised in a lively and interactive way in order to foster debate among participants.

The Battle of Minds – Let's Get Serious About New Jobs!

Those that attended the NEUJOBS mid-project conference will remember the Battle of Minds - a short, lively and highly instructive session with key thinkers of the project and EU policy-makers. A similar session will conclude the final conference. Questions to be addressed this time include: How serious is the perspective of saving European labour markets with green jobs? Can we expect to further increase the labour supply of marginalised workers? Can Europe still create jobs?

The protagonists of this concluding plenary, again moderated by **Iain Begg**, will be:

- **Marina Fischer-Kowalski**, Institute of Social Ecology, University of Klagenfurt;
- **Bart van Ark**, The Conference Board;
- **Philippe Lamberts**, Group of the Greens – European Free Alliance;
- **Viola Zentai**, Central European University;

Stream 1: Research in the Spotlight

➤ Job creation in Europe. What does it take to create jobs in Europe in a 'tough' or a 'friendly' global scenario?

Discussion leaders:

Daniel Gros, CEPS; **Werner Eischhorst**, Institute for the Study of Labour; **Marina Fischer-Kowalski**, Institute of Social Ecology, University of Klagenfurt; **Paul Zagamé**, Société Européenne d'Economie.

Moderator: Ilaria Maselli, CEPS.

How many jobs will be created between now and 2030? NEUJOBS estimates that between +23 million jobs will be created in a 'friendly' scenario and -9 million jobs in a 'tough' one. Forecasts also suggest that the destruction of low-skilled employment in the tradable sectors will continue. The question is: Which European policies perform well under both global futures, which are more effective under a 'tough' or a 'friendly' future?

➤ The Roma labour market: A European problem or a European opportunity?

Discussion leaders:

Vera Messing, Central European University; **Mamta Murthi**, The World Bank; **Carolina Sanchez Paramo**, World Bank; **Viola Zentai**, Central European University.

Moderator: Miroslav Beblavý, CEPS.

Looking at Bulgaria, Hungary, Romania, Slovakia and Spain, NEUJOBS investigated what policies, market mechanisms and social factors, such as widespread discrimination, have led to immensely diverging employment conditions and statistics between Roma and non-Roma. This session will look at some of the findings and attempt to address the following questions: How can we increase Roma employment through European and member state policy mechanisms? How can increased Roma employment affect current demographic challenges such as population ageing, low/falling fertility rate on the one hand, and environmental challenges such as clean energy, on the other?

➤ Solving Europe's unemployment problem with jobs in energy, transport sectors and housing. Possible?

Discussion leaders:

Arno Behrens, CEPS; **Christophe Heyndrickx**, Transport & Mobility Leuven; **Nick Horsewood**, University of Birmingham; **Simon Upton**, The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

Moderator: Ilaria Maselli, CEPS.

Five years from the start of the Great Recession, Europe is still struggling to bring unemployment rates down to below two-digit figures. Policy-makers often mention housing, transport and energy as key sectors to foster employment growth. Are their expectations justified? How important are these sectors? What types of jobs would they bring? And what policies are necessary to foster job creation?

Stream 2: The Social Partners' Face-off

➤ Future care needs: (How) can we bridge the gap?

Discussion leaders:

Johannes Geyer, The German Institute for Economic Research; **Michaela Gstrein**, Institute for Advanced Studies – Vienna, Austria; **Maciej Kucharczyk**, AGE Platform Europe; **Mattias Maucher**, European Federation of Public Service Unions; **Luk Zelderloo**, European Association of Service Providers for Persons With Disabilities.

Moderator: Bart Vanhercke, European Social Observatory.

The care sector is often seen as a substantial source of employment, given the increased life expectancy in Europe and the need for work-family balance. How important will (elderly and child) care jobs be in the future? How will differences between European countries in terms of family values and ways of life influence the work opportunities available? And furthermore, how can changes taking place in welfare states and industrial relations in Europe in the 21st century influence the direction taken by longer-term processes of socio-ecological change?

➤ Women's employment: How well is Europe doing?

Discussion leaders:

Agnieszka Chłoń-Domińczak, Educational Research Institute, Warsaw; **Mary Collins**, European Women's Lobby; **Claudia Menne**, European Trade Union Confederation; **Karina Ransby**, The Confederation of Danish Employers.

Moderator: Bart Vanhercke, European Social Observatory.

Economic and demographic forecasts show a significant decrease in the workforce in Europe. An increase in labour force participation rates among women, especially in the personal services sector, could counterbalance this trend. But this opportunity also depends on issues related to women's employment decisions, such as education, maternity, retirement, life-long learning, care choices, flexible employment contracts and salaries. The predicted decline in male employment could also change the balance within families.

➤ Europe's green energy transition: Jobs miracle or jobs destroyer?

Discussion leaders:

Willi Haas, Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt; **Christian Kjaer**, Faraday Consult and former CEO at the European Wind Energy Association; **Béla Galgóczi**, European Trade Union Confederation.

Moderator: Willy de Backer, European Trade Union Institute.

Green jobs are seen as a response to the global challenges of environmental protection, economic development and social inclusion. However, they also raise crucial issues. Which economic sectors will drive employment growth and which social groups in society will be most affected by this ecological transition? What types of innovation will contribute both to employment and to a more sustainable production system? Are these new jobs and what skills do they require? Can economic organisations and institutions facilitate this transformation, and, if so, how?

Stream 3: The Transatlantic Face-off

➤ Are jobs in Europe and the US becoming greener?

Discussion leaders:

Nathalie Cliquot, OECD; **Bert Colijn**, The Conference Board; **Christian Egenhofer**, CEPS; **Matthew Stepp**, The Information Technology and Innovation Foundation.

Moderator: **Bart van Ark**, The Conference Board.

What are green jobs, and how are they created? To what extent have energy efficiency and the switch to renewables increased the demand for green jobs? Are green skills different from other skills? Have Europe and the US followed different strategies – if there were strategies at all? What lessons can be learned?

➤ Are the elderly ready to work longer?

Discussion leaders:

Kathleen Mullen, RAND Center for Disability Research; **Izabela Styczynska**, CASE; **Mary Young** The Conference Board.

Moderator: **Bert Colijn**, The Conference Board.

As the working-age population is ageing in the EU and the US, initiatives to delay retirement and to keep people in the workforce for longer are emerging everywhere. How do companies and organisations cope with the skill challenges of elderly workers? What lessons can be learned from specific government and business programmes?

➤ Are the skills needed for innovation changing?

Discussion leaders:

Linda Barrington, Cornell University; **Miroslav Beblavý**, CEPS; **Paolo Naticchioni**, University of Rome and Institute for the Study of Labor, **Mary Young** The Conference Board.

Moderator: **Bart van Ark**, The Conference Board.

In the past decade a large body of literature has emerged on how technology is impacting the demand for skills, suggesting a skill bias towards higher skills over lower, especially medium-type skills. But technological progress and the innovation processes that go along with it are inherently dynamic and the demand for skills changes accordingly. How has this skills demand changed and what trends can we determine for the future?