

## [EU-OSHA joins the fight against occupational cancer at Austrian EU Presidency conference](#)

The conference provides an overview of current challenges, presents latest developments and ongoing initiatives. Aspects addressed range from the European perspective to simple measures and practical solutions suitable for implementation within companies. In workshops, participants will have the opportunity to discuss risk-based approaches, workplace risk management and health monitoring, and campaigning activities.'

At the conference EU-OSHA presents the [2018-19 Healthy Workplaces Campaign](#) and chairs a session that looks at good practice, policy and awareness raising initiatives such as the [EU Roadmap on Carcinogens](#). This action scheme informs about the risks from exposure to carcinogens and how to tackle them by finding practical solutions and sharing good practices. Started in 2016 under the Netherlands EU Presidency, the roadmap's next destination is Helsinki, with the forthcoming Finnish EU Presidency announcing to support the scheme in 2019.

Marianne Thyssen, EU Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs, Skills and Labour Mobility states that *"the Roadmap is a very welcome initiative to ensure that our ambitious agenda launched to update the protection against exposure to carcinogens is applied on the work floor throughout the EU"*.

*"Protection against carcinogenic substances is also of particular concern to Austria. Our mutual goal is to reduce the number of victims now and in the future. Therefore a joint and strong approach to this problem at European level is required,"* says Beate Hartinger-Klein, Austrian Minister of Labour, Social Affairs, Health and Consumer Protection.

*"At the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA), we are working to highlight the scale of the problem and the importance of preventing exposure to carcinogens at work as part of our current campaign, [Healthy Workplaces Manage Dangerous Substances](#)",* says Director Christa Sedlatschek. *"We believe that by informing and educating workers and employers – and offering practical solutions – we can reduce and even eliminate exposure to carcinogens at work, thereby preventing needless suffering and deaths from cancer."*

EU-OSHA's work in the field includes a report and summary on the [Exposure to carcinogens and work-related cancer: a review of assessment methods](#). Events within the roadmap scheme are summarised in the [Fighting cancer at the workplace seminar – EU roadmap on carcinogens](#) and the [Workshop 'Carcinogens and Work-Related Cancer'](#).

[Find out more about the conference](#)

[Explore the issue of workplace carcinogens](#)

[Visit the EU Roadmap on Carcinogens website](#)

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## **Joint EU – UN Press Statement**

The United Nations Secretary-General, the President of the European Commission and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy/Vice President of the European Commission, met in New York for their annual meeting in the margins of the seventy-third session of the United Nations General Assembly.

Today, they expressed their determination to further strengthen the cooperation between the United Nations and the European Union. At a time of unprecedented and pressing global challenges, the United Nations and the European Union continue to engage together as positive forces for change to promote and renew full commitment to multilateralism and a rules-based global order, in line with their respective mandates, and to work closely for stability and prosperity to promote a safer and better world for all.

The 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights is an opportunity to reaffirm the commitment of the two organisations to stand up for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all across the world. It is also the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of United Nations Peacekeeping, an institution that for seven decades has helped protect the vulnerable and promote peace and security across the globe.

In a rapidly evolving global landscape, the implementation of the reform of the United Nations system is crucial. The European Union is committed to strengthen and further promote the multilateral system, with a reformed UN at its core.

Partnerships with regional organisations are central to the United Nations' preventive action, and the European Union is an indispensable partner of the United Nations, contributing to regional and global peace and security, as well as to sustainable development and human rights. The United Nations and the European Union will also continue to cooperate with other regional organisations such as the African Union, and with sub-regional organisations, including through the United Nations regional offices, cognizant that a closer cooperation among regions is an important pillar of a stronger multilateral architecture.

The Leaders further reiterated their determination to seek innovative and forward-looking solutions to global challenges which require collective action, drawing on all parts of society to maintain the global efforts to tackle climate change, including the Paris agreement, and mobilising private sector investments for sustainable development, with women and youth at the

centre of all action. Together, the United Nations and the European Union will continue to reinforce efforts to prevent conflict. Not least, the United Nations and the European Union will also continue to leverage their respective strengths to support the implementation of the landmark 2030 Agenda and its ambitious goals.

The strengthened cooperation between the United Nations and the European Union will continue, notably in areas including the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, addressing global challenges, in conflict prevention and in the promotion of peace and security.

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## [#JubelFestival – EESC members discuss new ideas for the future of Europe](#)

**An amazing opportunity to exchange views and a wonderful learning experience. The Jubel Festival, the very first festival on European democracy in Belgium, took place on Saturday 22 September 2018 in Park Leopold in Brussels. EESC members Pierre Jean Coulon, Ronny Lannoo, Thierry Libaert and Daniel Mareels contributed to a fruitful meeting on the future of Europe, one that was particularly relevant in view of the upcoming European elections.**

Hundreds of participants gathered to discuss the state of play of the European Union and put forward their ideas for the Europe they want. People of all ages, from all background and nationalities, tapped into the potential of the European democracy festival to talk and listen to each other, get inspired, and exchange opinions with European political leaders, civil society organisations and experts.

The European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) was represented by a delegation of members: **Thierry Libaert** (Diversity Europe Group) moderated the morning debate, while **Pierre Jean Coulon** (Workers' Group), **Ronny Lannoo** (Diversity Europe Group) and **Daniel Mareels** (Employers' Group) manned the EESC information stand and ran the afternoon workshop in the EESC tent.

The EESC members unanimously underlined that, on the eve of the European elections, there was no time to waste in delivering on promises, and focused on three key points based on the commitment to:

- building **a sustainable and inclusive Europe** (Digital Single Market, Banking Union, Social Pillar, Energy Union, etc.);
- discussing **migration**, bearing in mind the principles of solidarity and the rule of law, which are at the core of any lasting compromise;
- making the EU once more **people-centred**, enabling its citizens to achieve a better quality of life.

A closer and more regular dialogue with citizens is vital. EESC members are

representatives of civil society organisations in their respective Member States and face the same everyday challenges as any other European citizen. The EESC has played an active role in this regard over the past 60 years. The EU Institutions and European civil society need to work together to find new ways of consulting people and encouraging them to engage in a genuine civil dialogue and participate in the public debate.

The festival was organised in cooperation with the European Economic and Social Committee and, among other partners, the European Commission, the European Committee of the Regions, the French Republic (citizens' consultations on Europe), the King Baudouin Foundation, Stand Up for Europe and Democratic Society.

For more information, please contact:

EESC Press Unit – Marco Pezzani

+ 32 (0)2 546 97 93 · Mob. +32 (0)470 881 903

marco [dot] pezzani [redacted] eesc [dot] europa [dot] eu

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## [Statement by President Donald Tusk on the Brexit negotiations](#)

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# Main topics and media events 24 September – 7 October 2018

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