



HIVA-KU Leuven invites you to participate in the European Round Table of the project:

*Improving Collective Bargaining in European Union. Comparison of different industrial relations regimes – ImproCollBar*, implemented with the financial support of the European Commission, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion SOCPL-2021-IND-REL.

The project **ImproCollBar**, promoted by The Confederation of Independent Trade Unions in Bulgaria (CITUB) aims to expand the expertise in the field of industrial relations in five EU Member States (Belgium, Bulgaria, Romania, Greece and Italy) through comparative research of the factors and mechanisms that improve the scope and coverage of collective bargaining in different industrial relations regimes in the context of the European directive for minimum wages and the COVID-19 pandemic. The project aims to contribute and promote the exchange of information, experience and knowledge among the main actors involved in the industrial relations (social partner organisations) in order to develop and reinforce better industrial relations in Europe related, in particular, to the functioning and effects of the coordination of collective bargaining across different levels and territories. The project outcomes will contribute for the re-thinking of the strategies of the national trade unions related to improving collective bargaining in general.

**The Round Table** will take place in AGORA Learning Centre, Room Mo1.E50 - [Room COUVREUR](#), Edward Van Evenstraat 4, 3000 Leuven, Belgium on 23 October 2023.

Welcome starting at 09:30, opening at 10:00.

**The event is organised and hosted by:** HIVA-KU Leuven in collaboration with The Confederation of Independent Trade Unions in Bulgaria (CITUB); CNSLR- FRATIA - Romania; University of Pisa - Italy; Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences - Greece; Force Ouvrière FO - France; CSC - ACV - Belgium; Organization for Workers' Initiative and Democratization OWID – Croatia.

**Working language:** English.

# European Round Table

## *Improving the scope and coverage of collective bargaining in Europe*

23 October 2023; 10.00 – 17.00

AGORA Learning Centre, Room Mo1.E50 - Room COUVREUR

Edward Van Evenstraat 4, 3000 Leuven

## Agenda

- 09.30 Registration and welcome coffee
- 10.00 **Official opening and introduction to the project and the roundtable**
- *Tine Van Regenmortel, director, HIVA-KU Leuven*
  - *Ina Atanasova, ImproCollBar project manager, CITUB*
- 10.20 **Keynote 'The collective bargaining directive in disguise – How the European minimum wage directive aims to strengthen collective bargaining'**
- *Torsten Müller, senior researcher, ETUI*
- 11.00 **Presentation of the implemented research**
- Chair: *Ivaylo Dinev, ImproCollBar project research team leader, ISTURET - CITUB*
- **Bulgaria:** *Rositsa Makelova, researcher, ISTURET*
  - **Belgium:** *Noah Vangeel, researcher, HIVA-KU Leuven*
- 11:30 Coffee break
- 11:45 **Presentation of the implemented research**
- **Greece:** *Christina Korkontzelou, researcher and Dimitra Kofti, researcher, Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences*
  - **Italy:** *Paola Imperatore, researcher, University of Pisa*
  - **Romania:** *Gabriela Negoita, researcher, CNSLR- FRATIA*
  - **France:** *Romain Laserre, legal advisor, Force Ouvrière*

- **Croatia:** *Jakov Kolak, union representative, Organization for Workers' Initiative and Democratization (OWID)*

12:45 **Q&A**

13.00 Lunch break

14:00 **First Panel - *Wage bargaining - the road from socio-economic arguments to union pressure actions***

- Chair: *Sem Vandekerckhove, senior researcher, HIVA-KU Leuven*

Panellists:

- *Christine Aumayr-Pintar, senior research manager, Working Life, EUROFOUND*
- *Wouter Zwysen, senior researcher, ETUI*
- *Chris Serroyen, head of the study department, ACV-CSC*

15:15 Coffee break

15:30 **Second Panel - *Coalition building – mechanisms and instruments for trade unions to form large coalitions with other actors***

- Chair: *Massimiliano Andretta, associate professor Political Science, University of Pisa*

Panellists:

- *Todor Kapitanov, vice-president, CITUB*
- *Salvo Leonardi, senior researcher, FDV*

16:45 **Discussion and closing remarks**

- *Ivaylo Dinev, ImproCollBar project research team leader, ISTURET – CITUB*

17:00 End of the meeting