

**European Federation** 

and Woodworkers

of Building



## EU construction social partners call for digital enforcement

In view of the European Commission's pilot project on a European Social Security Pass (ESSP) which it announced in the <u>European Pillar of Social Rights Action Plan</u>, and the draft resolution of the European Parliament on the "<u>Introduction of a European Social Security</u> <u>Number with a personal labour card</u>" the EFBWW and FIEC, the social partners in the European construction sector, declare:

**EFBWW and FIEC call for effective digital tools and for ensuring the enforcement of the applicable legislation,** to protect worker's rights and at the same time to facilitate administrative procedures for the fair and free movement of companies and workers in the internal market. In this context, the introduction of a European social security pass should continue to guarantee the control competences of the authorities of the host country. It must not lead to the introduction of the country-of-origin principle.

EFBWW and FIEC consider it crucial to accelerate real-time cross-border access and exchange of electronic data for the enforcement of EU mobility rules, in line with GDPR regulations. It must at least allow for the identification of a worker, the employment relationship, and the verification of the social security status during inspections. It should improve and facilitate existing procedures like prior notification for posting or the confirmation of the social security affiliation of a worker. The digitalisation of these procedures should make them more secure, fraud-proof, and easy to apply.

EFBWW and FIEC call on the Commission to share more information about the ESSP pilot project and to directly involve in its assessment the social partners on national and European level, to jointly identify the most appropriate ways forward, taking into account the specificities of the construction sector.

**EFBWW and FIEC support a European approach to personal labour cards that** respects and promotes systems in place and the autonomy of the involved social partners. A European approach should provide solutions to digitally interconnect existing systems across borders and support new initiatives of social partners (or other actors with the direct involvement of the social partners). It should provide financial and technical support for new initiatives and for the existing ones as well as cross-border data exchange of existing systems.

Sectoral national social partners in the construction have a lot of experience with social ID cards. There are joint initiatives in several EU countries, such as the Finnish Valtti-card, the Belgian construbadge, the Spanish Professional card TPC, the Italian DURC, the Norwegian Jobbkort, or the Austrian BauID-Card. Other projects can be found in Sweden and Denmark.

Also, the Romanian construction social partners work jointly on an ID Card for decent work in construction. Usually, those social ID cards are very fraud proof and contain data to identify the worker, the employer, working periods and contractual relationships, social security coverage, insurance information, or certificates on qualification and health and safety. These initiatives should be recognised as good practices and should be the basis for developing a supportive framework on European level.

24 June 2021

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