



Taking the opportunity –

Workers' participation at board level in the European Company (SE)

SEEurope is a project conducted by the *European Trade Union Institute for Research, Education and Health and Safety (ETUI-REHS)* and co-funded by the *Hans Böckler Foundation*

What is **SEEurope**?

SEEurope is a project conducted by an **internationally composed network of researchers** under the leadership of the European Trade Union Institute (Brussels).

SEEurope will produce a **mix of country reports and articles on specific topics** in this context. The information on the website will be regularly updated and expanded. The research and monitoring is conducted with a view to **meeting the needs of all practitioners** in Europe involved in the founding of an **SE** and in the policy debate on participation issues in their countries.

Firstly, the project observes the **transposition** of the European legal obligations into national law which are required to be completed by end of October 2004.

Equal importance will be given to **observing companies** which are **planning to establish an SE**.

Moreover, **SEEurope** offers information on relevant recent **debates and measures on the European and/or global level**.

SEEurope pursues a twofold aim:

- To **monitor** the implementation of coming European Companies (*Societas Europea* – *Societas Europaea*, **SE**). The relevant European legislation (**SE** Statute together with the **SE** Directive on workers' participation) provides for compulsory workers' involvement. By offering the opportunity to influence management decisions, the establishment of an **SE** opens up a new form of cross-border responsibility for workers and their trade unions;
- To **develop the interface** between worker involvement in company decision-making and shaping of the future **European Social Model** (e.g. in shaping of European labour market, European training and employment promotion practices, promotion of women and improvement of socially responsible management practice) for the purposes of future research.

Further, **SEEurope** seeks to improve workers' negotiating position by offering **information on existing systems of board-level representation** in an effort to promote a better understanding among worker and trade union representatives. Accordingly, **SEEurope** sees its role as to take part in the process of ongoing political communication on these issues conducted within the ETUC sphere.

More information: www.seeurope-network.org

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