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Energy for a just and green recovery deal: the role of the industrial relations in the energy sector for a resilient Europe

(Project no. 101052341/SOCPL-2021-IND-REL)

REJEnerAXion is an action-research project, co-financed by the EU in the fields of industrial relation and social dialogue (Project no. 101052341/SOCPL-2021-IND-REL), which aims to analyse and strengthen the role of innovative industrial relations structures, including social dialogue, in contributing to a "socially just transition" towards green energy.

The REJEnerAXion project tries to reduce the lack of information, knowledge and mutual recognition of the different approaches between social partners in addressing the transformation towards a low-carbon energy sector in a socially just and balanced way.

The in-depth analysis and data collection activities of the project put in light the important role that industrial relations and social dialogue have **at European, national and regional level** in the governance of the conversion towards a greener and more inclusive economy and in leading to a greater acceptance of the energy transition itself.

REJEnerAXion was conducted by a high-quality, solid, well-experienced consortium of 7 research institutes and 4 trade unions in order to adopt a comprehensive approach able to consider the crucial issue of a "socially just transition" to a net zero-carbon energy at both a theoretical and practical level. The research partners included for the **research institutes and universities** are: Fondazione Di Vittorio FDV, Italy (project coordinator), Fundación 1° de Mayo, Spain, Association travail emploi Europe société ASTREES, France, Université de Liège LENTIC Research Center in New Ways of Working, Innovation and Change, Belgium, Central

European Labour Studies Institute (CELSI), Slovakia and Hungary, Instytut Spraw Publicznych, Poland, Agenzia per l'Innovazione, lo Sviluppo e la Formazione – AISFOR, (Italy). **Trade unions** involved are: EPSU European Federation of Public Service Unions, Federazione Italiana Lavoratori Chimica Tessile Energia Manifatturo, Italy, ETUI European Trade Union Institute, Confederazione Generale Italiana del Lavoro CGIL, Italy.

The project studied the impact of the energy transition processes bringing out the implications in terms of employment, in the quality of work, on bargaining, on social dialogue and on territorial development in order to respond to and anticipate the energy transition in the world of work from a comparative perspective, both at national and European level considering experiences and trends from North, South, Central and Eastern Europe (**Belgium, Germany, France, Italy, Spain, Poland, Slovakia and Hungary**).

The consortium carried out **desk analysis (1 European report, 8 National reports)**, a **qualitative survey (in-depth interviews with 81 'privileged observers'** such as with workers' trade union representatives, employers and representatives of employers' organisations, local institutions and authorities, experts, environmental, professional and civic associations), **national case studies (24** cases selected to cover each country's main energy transition pathways and their effects considering the geopolitical and strategic context, different stages of the value chain and different types of fossil fuels, the relationship with the territory, and implications for regional restructuring processes in coal-intensive regions). The final aim of the project was increasing expertise and leading to the preparation of suggestions to strengthen the role of the industrial relations systems and social dialogue at national and European level to promote a just energy transition.

Main products of the project which we are pleased to share with you are:

- The **executive summary** that sum up the main insights of the project
- The **recommendations** to strengthen industrial relations and social dialogue which are based on data (quantitative and qualitative) that describe the real situation of the transition and its future prospects.
- A **toolkit** which functions both as a digital repository of all the information, data and products of the project, and as a reasoned guide to employment transition pathways with the real measures that are now in place to support a decent job transition.



