7th European Working Conditions Survey

Questionnaire revision

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On behalf of the 7th EWCS project team
Objectives of the European Working Conditions Survey Series

- Assess and quantify working conditions of both employees and the self-employed across Europe on a harmonised basis.

- Analyse relationships between different aspects of working conditions.

- Identify groups at risk and issues of concern as well as of progress.

- Monitor trends by providing homogeneous indicators on these issues.

- Contribute to European policy development in particular on quality of work and employment issues.
The 7th EWCS

• Country coverage
  – EU
  – IPA: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, North-Macedonia, Serbia, Turkey
  – Norway and Switzerland
  – 2 top-ups: Belgium (+1,500), Slovenia (+500)

- Sample size
  - 1,000 per country
  - 1,200 PL; 1,300 ES; 1,400 IT; 1,500 FR; 1,600 UK; 1,700 TK; and 2,000 D
Our building blocks

Job quality: prospects, earnings, physical environment, social environment, skills and discretion, working time quality, work intensity

Quality of working lives: health and well being, work life balance, skills match, motivation and engagement, financial security

Individual characteristics
Company characteristics
Working conditions
Recent changes in work
Process for revision of questionnaire

**LESSONS LEARNT**
- Cognitive post test (Gesis): 2 tasks 1) comparability of job quality questions between self-employed and employees 2) dealing with workers at the margin; web testing 3 countries, and CI in 2 countries
- Feedback from analysis and use of the data
- Analysis of policy and research impact and use

**STAKEHOLDERS AND EXPERT MEETINGS**
- Advisory committee for working conditions and sustainable work
- Expert questionnaire development meetings
- Dedicated expert meetings on specific topics
- Written contributions and phone conferences from various key users

**TESTING PROPOSALS**
- Cognitive interviews (2 countries: 40 CI each)
- Advance translation in German and Polish, followed by translatability assessment (7 countries)
- Expert review: ‘3MC’
- Glossary / data map
Mandate for review of the questionnaire: keep trends AND

- Modernise job quality indices; make the business case for job quality
- Address fragmentation of the workplace / de-standardisation of the employment relationship
- Address technological change
- Capture potential drivers for the new EU policy agenda: #METOO, climate change, …
## New questions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Job quality</th>
<th>Fragmentation</th>
<th>Technological change</th>
<th>Potential drivers for the EU agenda</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Qualitative job insecurity</td>
<td>Reasons for having a second job / clarification of questions dealing with main job, all jobs together</td>
<td>Use of technology at work an automatic systems that allocate tasks automatically</td>
<td>Proportion of women at the workplace</td>
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<td>Innovative behaviour and innovation in the workplace</td>
<td>(ISCE revision) some operationalisation of the new category 'dependent workers'</td>
<td>Use of communication technology for work purposes outside typical working hours</td>
<td>Main means of transportation for commuting</td>
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<td>Right information, right equipment,</td>
<td></td>
<td>Introduction of new or significantly changed machines or ICT systems</td>
<td>Work in non-native language</td>
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<td>Ability to choose to work from home or another location</td>
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<td>De/centralisation of work and co-production</td>
<td>Review place of work / discrimination questions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Customer rating</td>
<td>In-depth review on comparability of self-employed and employees (Gesis)</td>
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State of play

- Pilot in all countries is underway
  - Full dress rehearsal
  - 30 to 40 interviews per country

- Some innovations and measures to improve quality
  - Experiment on ISCO coding
  - More registers are used for sampling
  - More data on the interviewing process
  - Quality control: double selection of interviews to be checked (local and central coordination)
  - Rigorous translation monitoring
  - Very thorough work around privacy

- Mainstage fieldwork next year
Thanks for your attention