



# Recent developments in safety and health at work policy in the EU

**EFESME Lift Forum**

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**Matthias Fritz**

**EMPL.B3 - Health and Safety**

**Directorate-General Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion**

**European Commission, EU**

# Some key figures on accidents at work

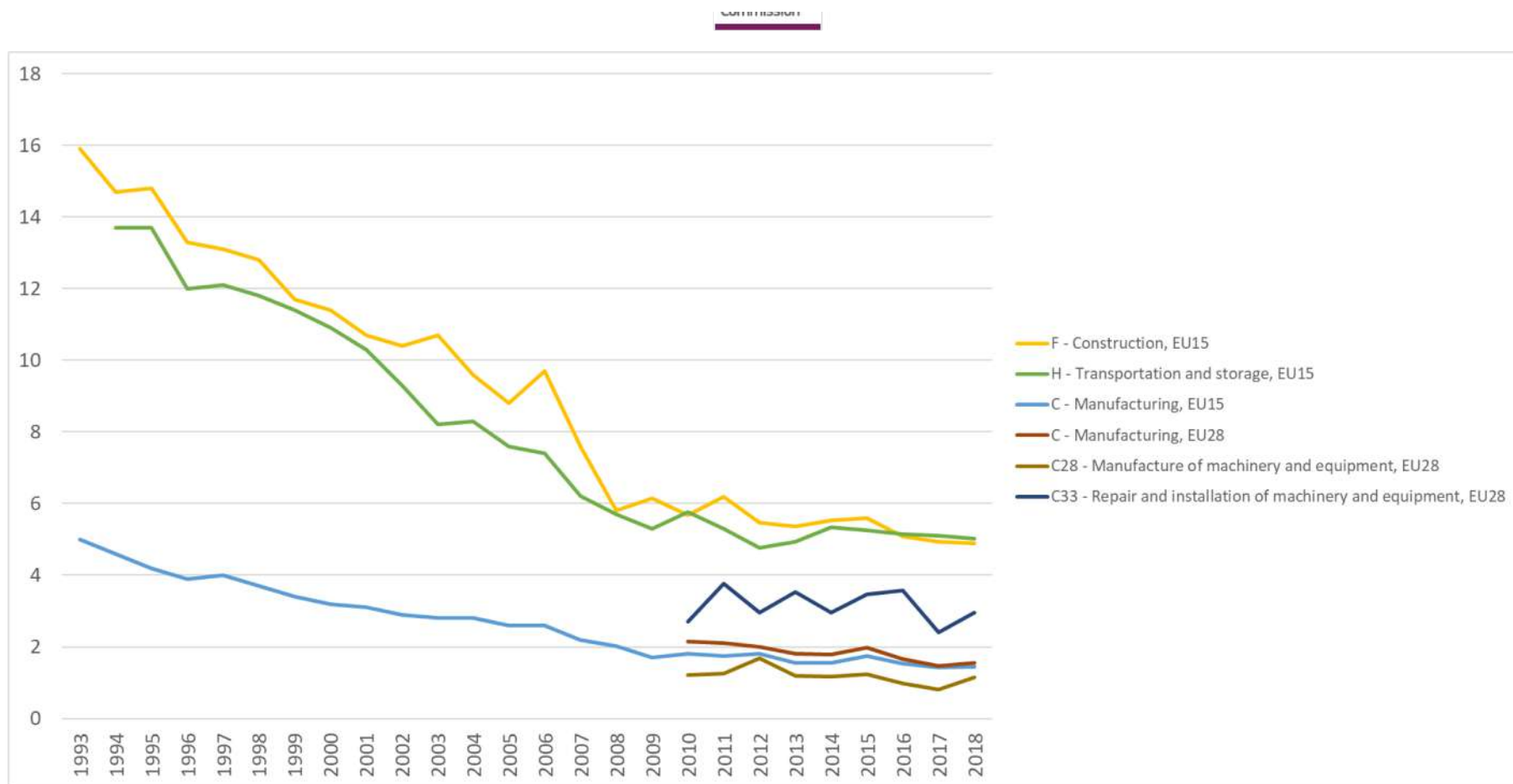
## Evidence-based policy making

- About 3,1 million reported non-fatal work accidents in all economic sectors in the EU-27 (from 2020) in 2018, of which ca. 600 000 in NACE Rev. 2 sector C – Manufacturing, among which 10% in C28 - Manufacture of machinery and equipment, incl. 28.22 Manufacture of lifting and handling equipment.
- 3,332 reported fatal accidents in all economic sectors in EU-27 2018, among which 505 in C – Manufacturing and 37 in C28 - Manufacture of machinery and equipment.

## Some key figures on accidents at work (EU-28, 2017)

- 3,332 reported fatal work accidents in all economic sectors (NACE Rev. 2 classification of economic activities)
  - 682 fatalities in F - Construction
  - 557 fatalities in H - Transport & storage
  - 505 fatalities in C - Manufacturing
    - 37 fatalities in C28 - manufacture of machinery and equipment
  - 441 fatalities in A - Agriculture, forestry and fishing
- About 3,1 million non-fatal work accidents reported for all economic sectors in the EU-27 (from 2020) in 2018
  - ca. 600 000 in C - Manufacturing
    - 10% in C28, incl. 28.22 Manufacture of lifting and handling equipment.

# Trends in fatal accidents at work, EU-28 and EU-15, 1993 – 2018 (cases per 100,000 employed persons)

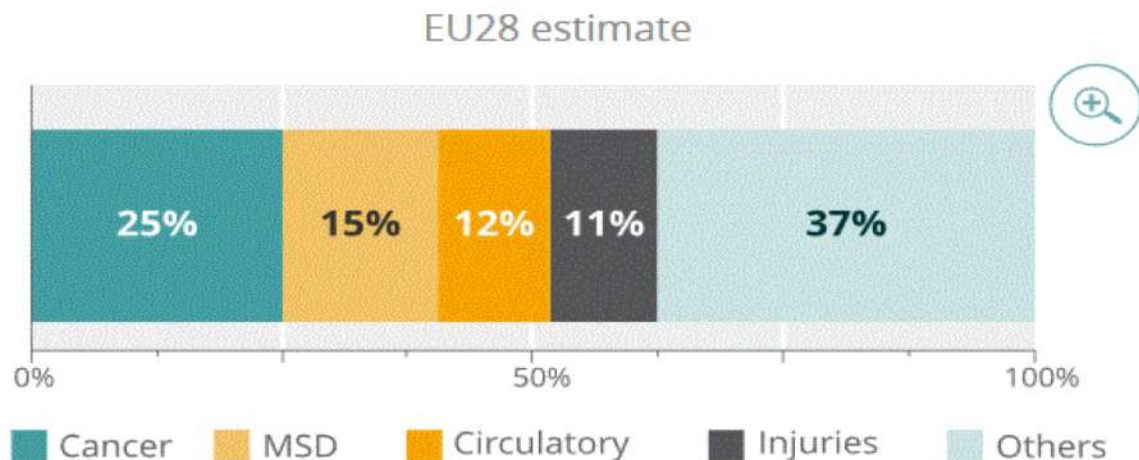


Source: Eurostat, European Statistics on Accidents at Work (ESAW)

# The importance of tackling work-related illnesses

## Disability-Adjusted Life Years (DALYs)

- **DALY** = Disability-Adjusted Life Years = number of years lost due to ill-health, disability or early death
- **Occupational cancer:** 25% of all DALYs in the EU-28 in 2015.
- **Musculoskeletal diseases (MSDs):** 15% DALYs in EU-28.
- **Other causes:** 12% DALYs in circulatory diseases, 11% DALYs (injuries / accidents at work), 37% DALYs (other causes).



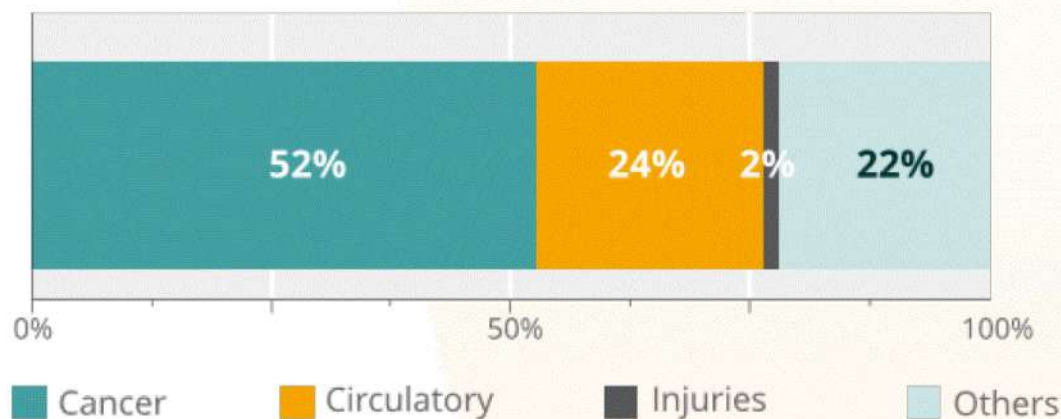
# The importance of tackling work-related illnesses

## Work-related fatalities

Commission

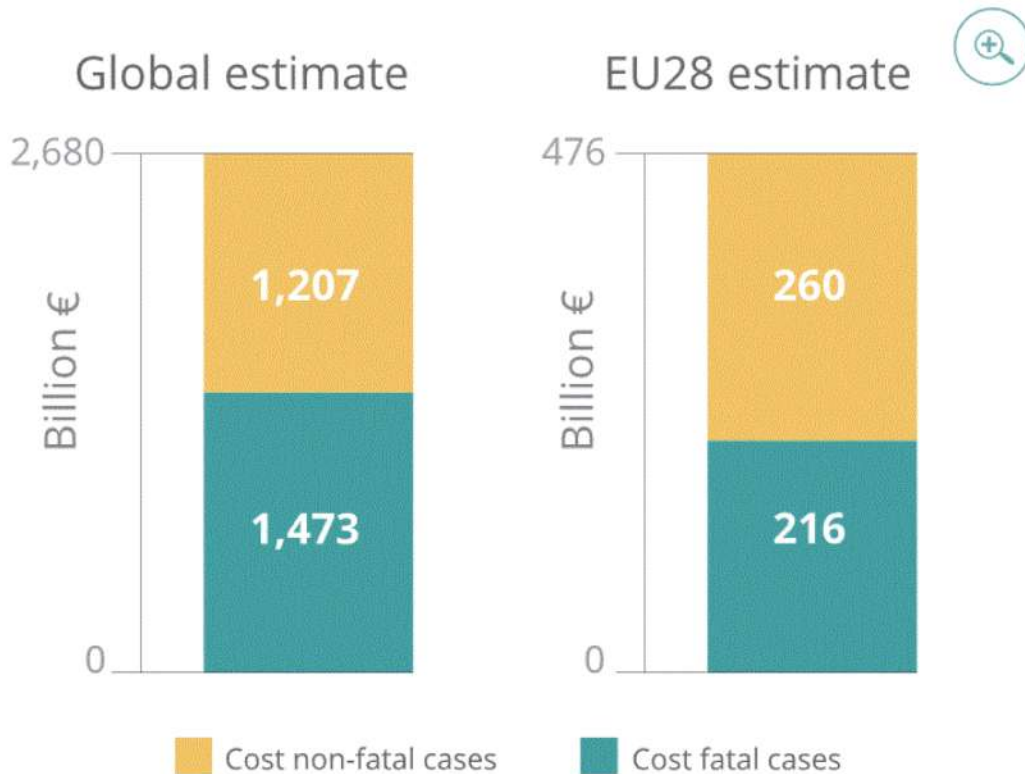
- **Over 200,000 estimated deaths due to work-related illnesses**, representing over 98% of all work-related deaths in EU-28 in 2017.
- **Cancer** is the biggest cause with over 100,000 deaths each year corresponding to about 52% of all work-related deaths.
- **Others**: respiratory diseases 6%, mental disorders 5.7%, communicable diseases 2.5% etc.

Figure 6: Causes of work-related fatalities (%) in the EU-28



# Cost to society of work-related injury and illness

Billion € ▼



**Work-related injuries and illnesses** result in the loss of 3.9% of all work-years globally and 3.3% of those in the EU, equivalent to a cost of approximately 2,680 billion and 476 billion, respectively.  
Source: ILO, 2017

<https://visualisation.osha.europa.eu/osh-costs>

# EU strategies and communications in health and safety at work

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- 2014 Communication “EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work 2014-2020”
- EU Commission Communication of 2017 on “Safer and Healthier Work for All – Modernisation of EU OSH Legislation and Policy”.
  - Occupational cancer and exposure to chemicals
  - Helping businesses to comply with rules in occupational health and safety, in particular micro, small and medium-sized enterprises
  - Fostering compliance and practical implementation on the ground, working with enforcement authorities and labour inspectors, including the Senior Labour Inspectors Committee (SLIC), providing them with good practices and further principles, guides and tools. Modernize the relevant EU Directives in light of scientific /technological developments



# New strategic framework

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- Study contract work ongoing
- Opinions and exchanges with stakeholders including the Senior Labour Inspectors Committee (SLIC), Advisory Committee on Safety and Health (ACSH - Working Party Strategy), input from Council conclusions
- Public consultation from approx. December – March 2021
- Adoption of the new strategy foreseen for quarter 2 of 2021

# Existing EU legislation in the area of health and safety at work

- Existing comprehensive body of EU legislation covering most occupational risks including
- Council Framework Directive 89/391/EEC
- 19 individual Directives and 11 independent Directives for different health and safety risks, causal agents, workplaces, sectors and vulnerable groups
- Other EU Regulations and Directives with relevance for health and safety, such as: Directive 2006/42/EC on health and safety requirements for machinery (currently under revision for IT developments of machinery), Directive 2001/95 EC on product safety, REACH Regulation (EC) 1907/2006

# Framework Directive 89/391/EEC in health and safety at work and its individual Directives

## 89/391 Framework Directive

		93/103	Fishing vessels
		98/24	Chemical agents and its individual Directives 2000/39, 2006/15, 2009/161, and 2017/164 on lists of indicative occupational exposure limit values
89/654	Workplaces <b>To be updated</b>		
89/656	Personal protective equipment <b>Updated</b>		
90/269	Manual handling of loads (back injury)		
90/270	Display screen equipment <b>To be updated</b>	99/92	Explosive atmospheres
92/57	Temporary or mobile construction sites	2000/54	Biological agents <b>Updated</b>
92/58	Safety and/or health signs at work	2002/44	Vibration
92/85	Pregnant workers, workers who have recently given birth or are breastfeeding	2003/10	Noise
92/91	Mineral-extracting industries through drilling	2004/37	Carcinogens or mutagens
92/104	Surface and underground mineral-extracting industries	2006/25	Physical agents (artificial optical radiation)
		2009/104	Work equipment
		2013/35	Electromagnetic fields

# Independent OSH Directives

91/322	Directive on indicative limit values	2000/79	Working time of mobile workers in civil aviation
91/383	Fixed-duration or temporary employment	2002/15	Working time of persons performing mobile road transport activities
92/29	Improved medical treatment on board vessels (ships) <b>Updated</b>	2003/88	Organisation of working time
94/33	Young people	2005/47	Working conditions of mobile workers in cross-border services of the railway sector
99/63	Working time of seafarers	2009/148	Exposure to asbestos
One or more individual or independent Directives were amended by:		2010/32	Sharp injuries in the hospital and healthcare sector
- Regulations 1882/2003, 1137/2008			
- Directives 2007/30, 2006/15			
- Directives 2009/13, 2009/148, 2009/161			
- Directives 2013/64, 2014/27, 2017/2398			

# OSH related EU legislation in other domains

## Example: Workplaces, equipment, signs, <sup>mission</sup> personal protective equipment

Regulation (EU) 2016/426 on appliances burning gaseous fuels

Regulation (EU) 2016/425 on personal protective equipment

Directive 2014/68/EU relating to the making available on the market of pressure equipment

Directive 2014/34/EU on equipment and protective systems intended for use in potentially explosive atmospheres

Directive 2014/33/EU on lifts and safety components for lifts

Directive 2014/29/EU on simple pressure vessels

Regulation (EU) No 305/2011 laying down harmonised conditions for the marketing of construction products

Directive 2010/35/EU on transportable pressure equipment

Directive 2006/42/EC - new machinery directive

Directive 2001/95 EC - product safety

Directive 85/374/EEC on liability for defective products

Directive 75/324/EEC on aerosol dispensers

Website of the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA) for safety and health legislation: <https://osha.europa.eu/en/safety-and-health-legislation>

# Framework Directive 89/391/EEC on safety and health at work

- Applies to all sectors (public and private)
- Sets out the minimum requirements, including:
  - Safety and health obligations of **employers** such as: overall duty to ensure safety and health of workers, preventing of occupational risks; develop prevention policy; adapt to technical progress; perform risk assessments; inform, consult and train workers; designate workers or competent external services for health and safety; ensure access to necessary information; measures for first aid, fire-fighting and health surveillance; keep records of accidents and report them to authorities.
  - Safety and health obligations of **workers** such as: to take care of own and others safety and health, make correct use of machinery and tools, to inform employer of any serious danger and to cooperate with employer and other workers in necessary safety and health tasks.

# Legislation alone is not enough

## Cooperation with EU stakeholders

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- Advisory Committee on Safety and Health at Work (ACSH):
  - Tri-partite: government, employers and workers' representatives
  - Provides advice to the Commission on policy and legal acts
  - Adopts opinions agreed by the three interest groups
- Senior Labour Inspectors Committee (SLIC):
  - Provides advice to the Commission on matters relating to enforcement by Member States of EU legislation on health and safety at work.
  - Defines common principles and methods of labour inspection
  - Exchange of information between national labour inspection services
  - Example of focus: high risk-occupation in the context of COVID-19, including seasonal workers, methods and challenges to inspect working conditions in teleworking, including related issues such as psychosocial and musculoskeletal diseases.

# Legislation alone is not enough

## Guidelines and other initiatives

### Examples of Guidelines

- Guide to application of the Machinery Directive 2006/42/EC Edition 2.2 – October 2019 (update of 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition)
- Good practice guides for temporary or mobile construction sites

### Example of Member States Initiatives

- Roadmap on carcinogens 2.0, 2020 – 2024



### EU OSHA Healthy Workplaces Campaigns:

- Prevention of work-related MSDs, 2020-22
- OSH and Digitalisation, planned for 2023-24

### Webtools such as Online interactive Risk Assessment (OiRA) of EU OSHA



# Main EU data collections on OSH (1)

## European Commission

- Eurostat [database](#) on accidents at work and other work-related health problems
- European Statistics on Accidents at Work ([ESAW](#), Eurostat)
- European Union Labour Force Survey [ad-hoc module](#) on accidents at work and other work-related health problems (EU-LFS ad-hoc modules, Eurostat)
- [Flash Eurobarometer 398](#) – Working Conditions,

## Main EU data collections on OSH (2)

### European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA, Bilbao, Spain)

- Overview of data on occupational accidents and health in [OSHwiki](#)
- European Survey of Enterprises on New and Emerging Risks ([ESENER](#), EU-OSHA)


### European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions (Eurofound, Dublin, Ireland)

- European Working Conditions Surveys ([EWCS](#), EU-OSHA),

# Access to all Eurostat website data





<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/data/database>

European Commission > Eurostat > Data > Database

Statistics A - Z  
Population Census 2011   
Experimental statistics  
Bulk download










▲ Web Services  
SDMX Web Services  
Json and Unicode Web Services

Access to microdata  
GISCO: Geographical Information and maps

▲ Metadata  
ESS Reference Metadata Reporting Standards  
Classifications  
Legislation and methodology   
Concepts and definitions   
Glossaries  
National methodologies   
Standard code lists   
SDMX InfoSpace  
Data validation

DATABASE

Data navigation tree

- Database by themes
  - General and regional statistics
  - Economy and finance
  - Population and social conditions
    - Demography and migration (demo)
    - Asylum and managed migration (migr)
    - Population projections (proj) 
    - Population and housing census (cens)
    - Health (hlth)
      - Health status (hlth\_state)
      - Health determinants (hlth\_det) 
      - Health care (hlth\_care)
      - Disability (hlth\_dsb)
      - Causes of death (hlth\_cdeath) 
      - Health and safety at work (hsw)
        - Accidents at work (ESAW, 2008 onwards) (hsw\_acc\_work) 
        - Accidents at work (ESAW) - until 2007 (hsw\_acc7\_work) 
        - Accidents at work and other work-related health problems (source LFS) (hsw\_apex) 
        - Work related health problems and accidental injuries - LFS 1999 (hsw\_inj\_pb) 
  - Education and training (educ)
  - Labour market (labour)
  - Living conditions and welfare (livcon)
  - Income, consumption and wealth - experimental statistics (icw) **Experimental**
  - Social protection (spr) 
  - Youth (yth)
  - Culture (cult)
  - Sport (sprt)
  - Crime and criminal justice (crim) 
- Industry, trade and services
- Agriculture, forestry and fisheries
- International trade

# Statistics Explained articles on accidents at work

[https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/Accidents\\_at\\_work\\_statistics](https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/Accidents_at_work_statistics)

The screenshot shows the Eurostat website interface. At the top left is the European Union flag and the text 'eurostat Statistics Explained'. To the right is a search bar and a language selector set to 'English'. Below the header is a navigation bar with 'NAVIGATION', 'ONLINE PUBLICATIONS', and 'TOOLS'. The main title is 'Accidents at work statistics'. On the right side, there are social media icons for Twitter, Facebook, and Google+, and a printer icon. Below the title, it says 'Data extracted in June 2018. Planned update: August 2019.' There is a 'Highlights' section with three items, each with a 'Tweet' button. The first highlight states: 'There were 3 876 fatal accidents at work in the EU-28 during 2015, an increase of 102 deaths compared with the year before.' The second highlight states: 'More than one fifth of all fatal accidents at work in the EU-28 took place within the construction sector.' The third highlight states: 'In 2015, three quarters of all non-fatal accidents at work in the EU-28 concerned: wounds and superficial injuries; dislocations, sprains and strains; or concussion and internal injuries.'

## Fatal accidents at work, 2015 (incidence rates per 100 000 persons employed)

Country	Incidence rate (per 100,000 persons employed)
Belgium	5.6
Denmark	3.8
France	3.6
Germany	3.6
Greece	3.4
Ireland	3.3
Italy	3.3
Spain	3.2
Portugal	2.9
Finland	2.8
Netherlands	2.7
Austria	2.6
Sweden	2.5
Cyprus	2.4
Poland	2.3
Czechia	2.2
Slovakia	2.1
Hungary	2.0
Malta	1.9
Lithuania	1.8
Latvia	1.7
Estonia	1.6
Slovenia	1.5
Luxembourg	1.4
EU-28 average	1.3

# Thank you for your attention



**Matthias Fritz**  
**DG Employment, Social Affairs  
and Inclusion**  
**European Commission**