





Celebrating 25 years of working together for a safe and healthy Europe

In 2019, the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA) celebrates 25 years of working with its extensive network of partners to make Europe a safer and healthier place to work. Founded in 1994, EU-OSHA made its home in Bilbao in 1997. The Agency researches, develops and distributes reliable, balanced, and impartial safety and health information and organises pan-European awareness-raising campaigns. **Follow the hashtag #EUOSHA25.**



EU-OSHA's raison d'être

EU-OSHA was founded in 1994 following the successful 1992-93 European Year of Safety and Health at Work and to support implementation of the increasing volume of occupational safety and health (OSH) legislation.

From the outset, it was committed to making Europe a safer, healthier and more productive place to work. EU-OSHA's key objectives have always been to provide reliable and relevant information, analysis and tools that serve the needs of those involved in OSH and to raise awareness of workplace risks and promote improvements in safety and health by reaching out to workplaces through its networks.

Crucially, its Management Board has always included representatives from government and employers' and workers' organisations. This tripartite way of working is one of EU-OSHA's core strengths. It ensures that their voices are all respected and represented in decision-making. EU-OSHA's other core strength is its extensive network of partners and its strong belief in partnership working.

Networking

EU-OSHA is a networking organisation. Its key partners are its national focal point network in 39 European countries plus their national tripartite networks, and its loyal band of official campaign partners, media partners and the Enterprise Europe Network. It is thanks to its partners that EU-OSHA has been so successful in reaching out to workplaces across Europe and spreading its messages.

Beneficiaries

Many stakeholders benefit from EU-OSHA's role as a provider of authoritative information: workers, employers, the social partners, policy-makers, labour inspectorates, and OSH professionals and researchers. In addition, a key beneficiary is micro and small enterprises — which may find OSH management difficult because of a lack of resources or know-how. By targeting small enterprises and providing practical advice and tools, EU-OSHA makes good OSH feasible for all.

"Safety and health of workers is part and parcel of human security ... Safe work is not only sound economic policy, it is a basic human right."

Kofi Annan, Workers' Memorial Day speech, New York, 28 April 2002





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