



# Foresight on new and emerging OSH risks associated with ICT by 2025

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

The European Union body responsible for the collection, analysis and dissemination of relevant information to serve the needs of those involved in safety and health at work



**In Bilbao (Spain), since 1996**

# Anticipating new and emerging OSH challenges

## Background to EU-OSHA's work:

- **A mandate from the Community Strategies for OSH since 2002**
- **EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work 2014-2020**
  - Calls on EU-OSHA to “Anticipate possible negative effects of new technologies and changes in work organisation on workers' health and safety”
- **A priority in EU-OSHA's Multi-annual Strategic Programme 2014-2020**

# EU-OSHA's work on new and emerging OSH challenges

- **Delphi studies on emerging physical, chemical, biological and psychosocial risks (2002-2006)**
- **Foresight on emerging OSH risks from new technologies in green jobs by 2020 (2010-2012)**
- **Scoping study for a foresight on emerging risks (2013-2014)**
  - “*The impact of ICT and work location on OSH*”: top ranking
  - Based on desk research and stakeholders' consultation
- **Foresight on emerging OSH risks associated with ICTs by 2025 (*on-going*)**
  - Link to the development of the EU Digital Single Market, a priority of the EU Commission

# Foresight on emerging OSH risks associated with ICTs by 2025

## Method: Foresight base on scenario-building

### ▪ **Scenario-building: a tool for strategic futures thinking**

- Doesn't assume the future is pre-determined
- Provides insight and stimulates debate into ways to shape the future

### ▪ **Scenarios of plausible, possible futures**

- Help gain insights into long-term developments
- To understand what decisions could help avoid/ encourage these futures

### ▪ **Participatory:**

- EU-OSHA's stakeholders actively involved
- Interviews & workshops with multi-disciplinary experts and policy-makers

### ▪ **Multidisciplinary**

- Mainstreaming OSH into other disciplines
- Societal, technological, economical, political context taken into account

# Foresight project – Background information

- **Contractor: Health and Safety Executive, SAMI Consulting, Futurizon**

Work packages	Start	End
1.1. Key trends and drivers of change <i>PUBLISHED</i>	March 2016	November 2016
2. Scenario development and testing	December 2016	September 2017
3. Dissemination and promotion workshops	Q4 2017	2018

- **Final report to be published in November 2018**
- **All information available at:** <https://osha.europa.eu/en/developments-ict-and-digitalisation-work>

# Beside the Foresight study:

## ▪ Expert Articles to stimulate debate

- Published:

Robotics; Additive manufacturing; Workers' monitoring technologies; E-retail sector; Crowdfunding; Performance-enhancing drugs

- Coming-up:

Artificial Intelligence; Exoskeletons; Social innovation

Available at: [https://oshwiki.eu/wiki/Category:Identifying\\_new\\_and\\_emerging\\_risks](https://oshwiki.eu/wiki/Category:Identifying_new_and_emerging_risks)

## ▪ Study on regulating OSH in the online platform economy

Published: <https://osha.europa.eu/en/tools-and-publications/publications/regulating-occupational-safety-and-health-impact-online-platform/view>

## ▪ Major OSH Overview on Digitalisation in 2020-22



**Thank you for your interest and  
enjoy the workshop!**

**Find out more about EU-OSHA's foresight projects:  
<https://osha.europa.eu/en/emerging-risks>**



**Let's keep in touch: [brun@osha.europa.eu](mailto:brun@osha.europa.eu)**