



**'No work in sight?  
The role of governments and  
social partners in fostering labour  
market inclusion of young people'  
people'**

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- Young people in Europe have been particularly hard hit by the recession with regards to their employment prospects.

The 2010 youth employment rate in Europe dropped to **34.1%**

 **-3.3%** compared to 2007

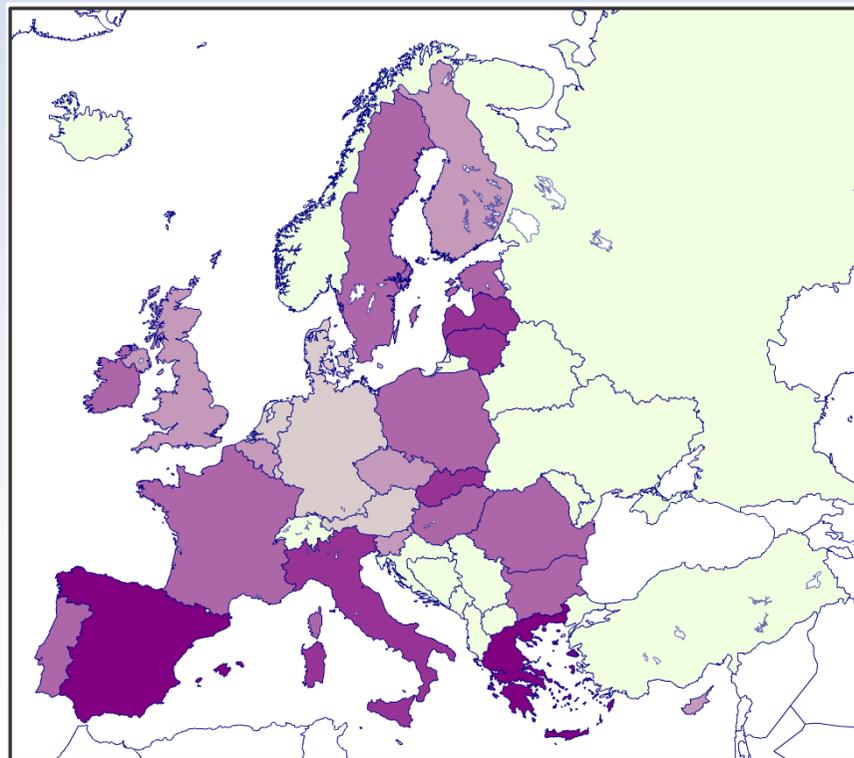
- The **2010 European Working Conditions Survey** shows:
  - Less certain, simpler, physically more demanding jobs.
  - Same intensity, less autonomy



The youth unemployment rate in 2010 reached the **20.8%**

 **+5.3%** compared to 2007

- Youth unemployment rates have doubled or in some cases tripled since the onset of the recession.
- Unemployment hit all young persons, regardless their educational level.



Emergence of the so called NEET generation over the last decade which has grabbed the attention of EU policy makers.

## Not in Employment, Education or Training

Unemployed

Discouraged workers

Inactive

People with disabilities

12.9% of young people

7.5 million

Policy priority:  
Employment guidelines

Social Cost

Economic Cost



# The cost of NEETs

## Social Cost

Concerns over democratic engagement and participation in civil society

- Less interested in politics
- Less likely to vote
- Less likely to participate in civic society
- Lower level of interpersonal trusts

## Economic Cost

Current cost in 2009

### Resource cost

- Loss to economy
- Loss for individual and family

### Public Finance Costs

- Tax Loss
- Benefits
- National Insurance
- Health & Criminality

**> 100,000,000,000 Euros**



## Government and social partner initiatives for young people with disabilities

Significant increase in the number of young people on incapacity benefits in a range of countries.

- Overall, Member States and social partners have a range of laws and legislation to include young people with disabilities in the labour market. The types of measures and the implementation varies from country to country.
- Main concern for most social partners are people in employment, however, several good practices exist aimed at young people with disabilities (employment, retention and re-integration)

Promotion of apprenticeships,  
training & work exp programmes

DE, DK, RO, CZ, GR, IE

Incentives for employment and  
training – subsidies, tax  
reductions, etc.

GR, LT, NL, ES, SE, IE, CY, RO

Education system reforms

PT, HU, DE

Labour legislation

NL, ES, GR





Eurofound

# Social Dialogue for the Youth

*Trade unions*

*Employers' organisations*

- Recognition of particular difficulties facing young workers
- Education system reforms
- Development of apprenticeships & traineeships

Quality of jobs offered to youth after completing education or an apprenticeship has to be assessed!

Reduction of barriers for hiring young people: lower employment protection & lower wages!



## Conclusion

- The crisis hit all young people: the well educated are also at risk of being unemployed
- The costs of the NEETs call for new policy action in support of those not included in education or employment. However, NEET sub-groups will require distinct forms of policy interventions.
- Governments responsible of initiatives for promoting employability of young people: the effectiveness of policy measures should be assessed.
- Coordinated actions between governments and social partners might be the key for successful initiatives.





European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions

# Thanks for your attention!

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