

Public consultation on EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work

Fields marked with * are mandatory.

Introduction

The aim of this open public consultation is to take stock of the quality and implementation of the Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work 2014-2020 and to receive input for the future Strategic Framework 2021-2027.

For further information, we kindly refer you to the current Strategic Framework, which can be accessed in your own language [here](#).

This open public consultation will be available for 12 weeks from 7 December to 1 March 2021.

About you

* Language of my contribution

- Bulgarian
- Croatian
- Czech
- Danish
- Dutch
- English
- Estonian
- Finnish
- French
- German
- Greek
- Hungarian
- Irish
- Italian
- Latvian

- Lithuanian
- Maltese
- Polish
- Portuguese
- Romanian
- Slovak
- Slovenian
- Spanish
- Swedish

* I am giving my contribution as

- Academic/research institution
- Business association
- Company/business organisation
- Consumer organisation
- EU citizen
- Environmental organisation
- Non-EU citizen
- Non-governmental organisation (NGO)
- Public authority
- Trade union
- Other

* First name

Rebekah

* Surname

SMITH

* Email (this won't be published)

r.smith@businessseurope.eu

* Organisation name

255 character(s) maximum

BusinessEurope

* Organisation size

- Micro (1 to 9 employees)
- Small (10 to 49 employees)
- Medium (50 to 249 employees)
- Large (250 or more)

Transparency register number

255 character(s) maximum

Check if your organisation is on the [transparency register](#). It's a voluntary database for organisations seeking to influence EU decision-making.

3978240953-79

* Country of origin

Please add your country of origin, or that of your organisation.

- | | | | |
|---|--|-------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Afghanistan | <input type="radio"/> Djibouti | <input type="radio"/> Libya | <input type="radio"/> Saint Martin |
| <input type="radio"/> Åland Islands | <input type="radio"/> Dominica | <input type="radio"/> Liechtenstein | <input type="radio"/> Saint Pierre and Miquelon |
| <input type="radio"/> Albania | <input type="radio"/> Dominican Republic | <input type="radio"/> Lithuania | <input type="radio"/> Saint Vincent and the Grenadines |
| <input type="radio"/> Algeria | <input type="radio"/> Ecuador | <input type="radio"/> Luxembourg | <input type="radio"/> Samoa |
| <input type="radio"/> American Samoa | <input type="radio"/> Egypt | <input type="radio"/> Macau | <input type="radio"/> San Marino |
| <input type="radio"/> Andorra | <input type="radio"/> El Salvador | <input type="radio"/> Madagascar | <input type="radio"/> São Tomé and Príncipe |
| <input type="radio"/> Angola | <input type="radio"/> Equatorial Guinea | <input type="radio"/> Malawi | <input type="radio"/> Saudi Arabia |
| <input type="radio"/> Anguilla | <input type="radio"/> Eritrea | <input type="radio"/> Malaysia | <input type="radio"/> Senegal |
| <input type="radio"/> Antarctica | <input type="radio"/> Estonia | <input type="radio"/> Maldives | <input type="radio"/> Serbia |
| <input type="radio"/> Antigua and Barbuda | <input type="radio"/> Eswatini | <input type="radio"/> Mali | <input type="radio"/> Seychelles |
| <input type="radio"/> Argentina | <input type="radio"/> Ethiopia | <input type="radio"/> Malta | <input type="radio"/> Sierra Leone |

- Armenia
- Aruba
- Australia
- Austria
- Azerbaijan
- Bahamas
- Bahrain
- Bangladesh
- Barbados
- Belarus
- Belgium
- Belize
- Benin
- Bermuda
- Bhutan
- Bolivia
- Bonaire Saint Eustatius and Saba
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Botswana
- Bouvet Island
- Brazil
- British Indian Ocean Territory
- British Virgin Islands
- Falkland Islands
- Faroe Islands
- Fiji
- Finland
- France
- French Guiana
- French Polynesia
- French Southern and Antarctic Lands
- Gabon
- Georgia
- Germany
- Ghana
- Gibraltar
- Greece
- Greenland
- Grenada
- Guadeloupe
- Guam
- Guatemala
- Guernsey
- Guinea
- Guinea-Bissau
- Guyana
- Marshall Islands
- Martinique
- Mauritania
- Mauritius
- Mayotte
- Mexico
- Micronesia
- Moldova
- Monaco
- Mongolia
- Montenegro
- Montserrat
- Morocco
- Mozambique
- Myanmar /Burma
- Namibia
- Nauru
- Nepal
- Netherlands
- New Caledonia
- New Zealand
- Nicaragua
- Niger
- Singapore
- Sint Maarten
- Slovakia
- Slovenia
- Solomon Islands
- Somalia
- South Africa
- South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands
- South Korea
- South Sudan
- Spain
- Sri Lanka
- Sudan
- Suriname
- Svalbard and Jan Mayen
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- Syria
- Taiwan
- Tajikistan
- Tanzania
- Thailand
- The Gambia

- Brunei
- Bulgaria
- Burkina Faso
- Burundi
- Cambodia
- Cameroon
- Canada
- Cape Verde
- Cayman Islands
- Central African Republic
- Chad
- Chile
- China
- Christmas Island
- Clipperton
- Cocos (Keeling) Islands
- Colombia
- Comoros
- Congo
- Cook Islands
- Costa Rica
- Côte d'Ivoire
- Croatia
- Haiti
- Heard Island and McDonald Islands
- Honduras
- Hong Kong
- Hungary
- Iceland
- India
- Indonesia
- Iran
- Iraq
- Ireland
- Isle of Man
- Israel
- Italy
- Jamaica
- Japan
- Jersey
- Jordan
- Kazakhstan
- Kenya
- Kiribati
- Kosovo
- Kuwait
- Nigeria
- Niue
- Norfolk Island
- Northern Mariana Islands
- North Korea
- North Macedonia
- Norway
- Oman
- Pakistan
- Palau
- Palestine
- Panama
- Papua New Guinea
- Paraguay
- Peru
- Philippines
- Pitcairn Islands
- Poland
- Portugal
- Puerto Rico
- Qatar
- Réunion
- Romania
- Timor-Leste
- Togo
- Tokelau
- Tonga
- Trinidad and Tobago
- Tunisia
- Turkey
- Turkmenistan
- Turks and Caicos Islands
- Tuvalu
- Uganda
- Ukraine
- United Arab Emirates
- United Kingdom
- United States
- United States Minor Outlying Islands
- Uruguay
- US Virgin Islands
- Uzbekistan
- Vanuatu
- Vatican City
- Venezuela
- Vietnam

- Cuba
- Curaçao
- Cyprus
- Czechia
- Democratic Republic of the Congo
- Denmark
- Kyrgyzstan
- Laos
- Latvia
- Lebanon
- Lesotho
- Liberia
- Russia
- Rwanda
- Saint Barthélemy
- Saint Helena Ascension and Tristan da Cunha
- Saint Kitts and Nevis
- Saint Lucia
- Wallis and Futuna
- Western Sahara
- Yemen
- Zambia
- Zimbabwe

The Commission will publish all contributions to this public consultation. You can choose whether you would prefer to have your details published or to remain anonymous when your contribution is published. **For the purpose of transparency, the type of respondent (for example, ‘business association, ‘consumer association’, ‘EU citizen’) country of origin, organisation name and size, and its transparency register number, are always published. Your e-mail address will never be published.** Opt in to select the privacy option that best suits you. Privacy options default based on the type of respondent selected

* Contribution publication privacy settings

The Commission will publish the responses to this public consultation. You can choose whether you would like your details to be made public or to remain anonymous.

Anonymous

Only organisation details are published: The type of respondent that you responded to this consultation as, the name of the organisation on whose behalf you reply as well as its transparency number, its size, its country of origin and your contribution will be published as received. Your name will not be published. Please do not include any personal data in the contribution itself if you want to remain anonymous.

Public

Organisation details and respondent details are published: The type of respondent that you responded to this consultation as, the name of the organisation on whose behalf you reply as well as its transparency number, its size, its country of origin and your contribution will be published. Your name will also be published.

I agree with the [personal data protection provisions](#)

GENERAL VIEWS ON OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH

The EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work 2014-2020 supports the promotion of high standards for occupational safety and health both within the EU and internationally. It aims to address the major health and safety at work challenges facing the EU through the implementation of a range of different actions at national and EU level. For more information, please see the Framework itself, which can be accessed in your own language [here](#).

In this section, we are interested to understand your level of engagement with the existing EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work 2014-2020 and hear your views on how the situation within your country and/or the EU has changed since 2014.

Are you involved in or do you contribute to the design and/or implementation of occupational safety and health (OSH) policy, legislation and/or other measures?
Please select what best applies to you.

- Yes, at EU level
- Yes at national or sub-national (regional, municipal) level
- Yes, I/my organisation are involved in OSH policy and/or legislation implementation in the workplace
- Yes, in another capacity
- No, not at any level

Please answer the survey from your own perspective – for example based on the situation in your company, your country or, if you deal with occupational safety and health (OSH) issues at EU level, based on the situation in the EU as a whole.

Thinking about the situation in your country / the EU, has workplace safety and health in your opinion become better since 2014?

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neither Agree nor Disagree
- Strongly Disagree
- Don't know

Please specify why:

500 character(s) maximum

The EU has high standards of health and safety protection, which are continually improving. Fatal and non-fatal accidents at work overall have been decreasing between 2010 – 2018, although with differences between sectors and countries (Eurostat). The existing legal framework is already comprehensive and well transposed. Also, measures have been taken recently to increase protection of workers from exposure to carcinogens and other chemicals at the workplace.

Do you agree or disagree that sufficient action has been taken since 2014 to ensure high level of protection of workers' health and safety by...

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't know
the European Parliament and the Council	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
the European Commission	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
national or regional authorities (ministries of employment, national institute for occupational safety and health (OSH), labour inspectorate, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
employers	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
employers' organisations at EU level	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
employers' organisations at national level	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
workers	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
workers' organisations (trade unions, etc.) at EU level	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
workers' organisations (trade unions, etc.) at national level	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

* How familiar are you with the EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at work 2014-2020?

- Very familiar (I know it in detail)
- Somewhat familiar (I know certain aspects)
- Not familiar (or only to a very limited degree)

In your opinion, how important are the following priorities of the EU OSH Strategic Framework 2014-2020 in relation to the key occupational safety and health (OSH) issues faced in your country / the EU since 2014:

	Very Important	Important	Slightly Important	Not Important	Don't know
Better enforcement of OSH legislation by EU Member States	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Improve statistical data collection and develop the information base on work related diseases and health issues	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Address health and safety issues, such as the ageing of the workforce, emerging new risks, prevention of work-related and occupational diseases	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Simplify existing OSH legislation	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Further consolidate national OSH strategies, aligning them with the EU OSH Strategic Framework	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Better coordinate EU and international efforts to address OSH and engage with international organisations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Facilitate compliance with OSH legislation, particularly by micro and small enterprises	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

VIEWS ON THE EU STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK 2014-2020

In this section, we are interested to understand your views on progress against the specific challenges and objectives identified in the EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work 2014-2020. The Strategic Framework defined 7 strategic objectives and a set of actions to be taken by different actors at EU and national level to help achieve each of these objectives.

The strategic objectives are:

1. Further consolidate national strategies
2. Facilitate compliance with OSH legislation, particularly by micro and small enterprises
3. Better enforcement of OSH legislation by Member States
4. Simplify existing legislation
5. Address the ageing of the workforce, emerging new risks, prevention of work-related and occupational diseases
6. Improve statistical data collection and develop the information base
7. Better coordinate EU and international efforts to address OSH and engage with international organisations

For more information on the challenges and objectives, please see the Framework itself, which can be accessed in your own language [here](#).

Do you agree or disagree that the EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work 2014-2020 ...

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't know
focussed on the key challenges and issues in the area of OSH?	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
strategic objectives responded to key challenges and issues in the area of OSH?	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
was clear in the way it was structured and formulated?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
ensured involvement and ownership from stakeholders?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Under its **first strategic objective** the [EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work 2014-2020](#) called on Member States to review their national occupational safety and health (OSH) strategies in light of the new EU framework. The Commission and EU-OSHA were tasked with establishing a database covering all national OSH strategies, and facilitating the exchange of good practices. In your opinion and based on your experience, do you agree or disagree that actions taken by Member States ...

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't know
made good progress?	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
led to tangible results?	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
were relevant to the actual priorities in the area of OSH?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
involved the appropriate stakeholders?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Has your country developed a new occupational safety and health strategy or updated its existing one since 2014?

Yes

- No
- Don't know

Do you agree or disagree that the occupational safety and health strategy of your country is aligned with the EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work 2014-2020 as regards its priorities / key objectives?

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neither Agree nor Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree
- Don't know

Under its **second strategic objective** the [EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work 2014-2020](#) called on Member States to provide support on implementing IT-based tools to facilitate compliance with occupational safety and health legislation. The Commission, in collaboration with EU-OSHA and/or other actors, was tasked with developing guidance, promoting the exchange of good practices, and carrying out awareness raising activities.

Based on your experience, do you agree or disagree that these actions...

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't know
made good progress?	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
led to tangible results?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
were relevant to the actual priorities in the area of OSH?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
involved the appropriate stakeholders?	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

The [Framework's](#) **third strategic objective** called for better enforcement of occupational safety and health (OSH) legislation by Member States. Key actions included: mapping labour inspectorates' resources and evaluating their capacities to enforce OSH legislation, evaluating the programme of exchange/training of labour inspectors, and assessing the effectiveness of monitoring compliance.

Based on your experience, do you agree or disagree that these actions...

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't know
made good progress?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
led to tangible results?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
were relevant to the actual priorities in the area of OSH?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
involved the appropriate stakeholders?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Under its **fourth strategic objective** the [EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work 2014-2020](#) refers to the simplification of legislation at both EU and national level, in order to reduce unnecessary burden, and to encourage the promotion of good practice.

Based on your experience, do you agree or disagree that these actions...

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't know
made good progress?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
led to tangible results?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
were relevant to the actual priorities in the area of OSH?	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
involved the appropriate stakeholders?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Under its **fifth strategic objective**, to address the ageing of the workforce, emerging new risks, and work-related and occupational diseases, the [EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work 2014-2020](#) called for support in the dissemination of findings from the European Risk Observatory, and good practices to support older and other specific groups of workers, as well as mental health issues at work, were to be identified and promoted.

Based on your experience, do you agree or disagree that these actions...

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't know

made good progress?	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
led to tangible results?	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
were relevant to the actual priorities in the area of OSH?	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
involved the appropriate stakeholders?	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Under its **sixth strategic objective** the [EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work 2014-2020](#) outlined the need to improve available data and information, inter alia by assessing and improving the availability and comparability of data on accidents at work, and on occupational diseases at EU level.

Based on your experience, do you agree or disagree that these actions...

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't know
made good progress?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
led to tangible results?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
were relevant to the actual priorities in the area of OSH?	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
involved the appropriate stakeholders?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Under its **seventh strategic objective**, the [EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work 2014-2020](#) identified several actions to better coordinate EU and international efforts to promote occupational safety and health (OSH) in the world and to strengthen support to candidate countries and international cooperation.

Based on your experience, do you agree or disagree that these actions...

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't know
made good progress?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
led to tangible results?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
were relevant to the actual priorities in the area of OSH?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

involved the appropriate stakeholders?	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
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Do you agree or disagree that the EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work 2014-2020 contributed to better work place health and safety for specific groups of workers who may be identified as potentially facing specific risk factors, such as women, older workers, workers with disabilities, seasonal workers, migrant workers, etc. as well as the self-employed?

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neither Agree nor Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree
- Don't know

Please provide further details regarding the specific group potentially at risk and/or risks faced.

500 character(s) maximum

EU OSH legislation, its rights and obligations apply to all workers at the workplace. Therefore, specific groups are protected. There can however be barriers to effective OSH protection of some specific groups, e.g. lack of accessible information for migrant workers or lack of understanding of OSH rights and obligations for some groups. Labour inspectorates and public authorities should assist not only in compliance /enforcement but also providing information and guidance.

In your opinion, were the following stakeholders involved in **the design** of the EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work 2014-2020 and its actions?

	Too much	About the right amount	Too little	Not at all	Don't know
National or regional public authorities (ministries of employment, national institute for OSH, labour inspectorates, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Employers' organisations (employers' associations, trade associations, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Workers' organisations (trade unions, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Employers (incl. self-employed)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Academic / research institutions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

OSH professionals (private experts / consultants, external prevention service providers, OSH network members, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Public insurance organisations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Other civil society organisations/NGOs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Other	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

If chosen "Other" please specify which stakeholder.

250 character(s) maximum

Whilst employers organisations were involved in the design and implementation of the actions through the Advisory Committee on Safety and Health, there was a lack of ownership of the strategic framework.

In your opinion, did the following stakeholders contribute to **the implementation** of the EU OSH Strategic Framework 2014-2020 and its actions?

	Too much	About the right amount	Too little	Not at all	Don't know
National or regional public authorities (ministries of employment, national institute for OSH, labour inspectorates, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Employers' organisations (employers' associations, trade associations, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Workers' organisations (trade unions, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Employers (incl. self-employed)	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Academic / research institutions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
OSH professionals (private experts / consultants, external prevention service providers, OSH network members, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Public insurance organisations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other civil society organisations/NGOs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Other	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If chosen "Other" please specify which stakeholder.

250 character(s) maximum

Individual employers were not involved directly in the design, only through employers organisations, however naturally contributed to implementing aspects due to their OSH obligations.

In your opinion, what were the most significant barriers to fulfilling the EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work 2014-2020 objectives? Please select up to three answers. If you don't perceive any barrier, you can skip the question.

at most 4 choice(s)

- Lack of coordination between different European Commission services and /or other EU institutions
- Lack of monitoring, benchmarks and targets
- EU strategic objectives and actions not being relevant enough / not aligning to OSH priorities
- External factors, such as the COVID-19 pandemic
- Economic context
- EU strategic objectives and actions not leading to concrete results / having limited impact
- National OSH strategies not aligned to EU strategic objectives and actions
- Lack of awareness/understanding of OSH among key stakeholders
- Lack of interest/uptake by workers
- Lack of commitment or engagement of social partners
- Limited human and financial resources
- Lack of commitment or engagement of the EU institutions
- Lack of commitment, engagement or coordination of / among EU Member States
- Other
- Lack of technical capacity among stakeholders to engage with OSH priorities
- Lack of interest/uptake by employers

If chosen "Other" please specify what other barrier(s) you perceive?

500 character(s) maximum

Some actions were taken, but others were prioritised less, e.g. simplification of OSH legislation, reducing burden, exchange of good practice. EU-OSHA developed tools for SMEs to implement OSH legislation (OiRA), but this objective was unfortunately not prioritised by the EU institutions overall, nor the Advisory Committee (the dedicated working party on this was not set up). The structure and division between strategic objectives – topics - actions could have been clearer.

OVERALL OPINIONS AND VIEWS ON THE FUTURE OSH STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

In this section, we are keen to understand your views on what should be included in a new EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work. This includes questions around key challenges and objectives that should be addressed, the type of actions which should be included and what the main priorities of such a policy initiative should be.

In your view, did the EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work 2014-2020 contribute to improved health and safety at work at...

	To a great extent	Somewhat	Very little	Not at all	Don't know
EU level?	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
national level?	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
regional level?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
the workplace (for example in your organisation)?	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Please briefly explain why you believe the EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work 2014-2020 contributed – or not – to improved health and safety at work.

500 character(s) maximum

The EU OSH Strategic Framework is important in setting an agenda for EU actions and common goals for national OSH strategies. By setting priorities, which lead to specific actions, it indirectly contributes to OSH improvements. Others play a role in improvements, e.g. social partners, employers, governments, particularly at workplace level. More guidance and support to implement legislation and simplifying on the ground, particularly for SMEs, would have led to more improvements in OSH.

Thinking ahead to the next 7 years (2021-2027), how important do you think the following will be in terms of OSH policy and action at EU level to be included in a Strategic Framework?

	Important	Slightly Important	Not Important	Don't know
Effective application of OSH legislation	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Development and dissemination of OSH guidance, good practices and other awareness raising activities	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Supporting enforcement activities	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Promoting cooperation and coordination of OSH policies across policy areas, such as health, education, environment, chemicals etc.	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Updating and adapting OSH related legislation	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Promoting social dialogue	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
International cooperation and coordination of OSH policy	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

In your view, has the Covid-19 pandemic increased or decreased the importance of any of the following OSH-related issues...

	Significantly Increased	Slightly Increased	Neither Increased not Decreased	Slightly Decreased	Significantly Decreased	Don't know
infectious disease prevention measures in the workplace, including where risk of infection is higher or in essential services	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
increase of teleworking / remote working / working from home and prevention of related risks	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
work-related psycho-social risks / ergonomic risks prevention	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
access to OSH related information	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
coordination among Member States in tackling the COVID-19 pandemic at the workplace	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
effective OSH measures for vulnerable groups of workers, such as seasonal, migrant, temporary or self-employed workers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
enforcement issues	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Thinking about the future (the next seven years), do you think a new EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work and its priorities should...

- other
- be fundamentally changed/adapted
- be discarded – there is no need for an EU-level OSH Framework
- remain broadly the same
- be updated/adapted

If chosen "Other" please specify:

500 character(s) maximum

Based on the comments above, some of the priorities should remain at the same level (e.g. data and information base, enforcement, consolidating national strategies), however due to lack of prioritisation of others, they need to be more of a focus in the next strategy (e.g. facilitating compliance of legislation by SMEs, simplifying existing legislation). Further adaptations may also be necessary, to focus on other issues, e.g. OSH opportunities/challenges related to digitalisation.

Thinking ahead to the next 7 years (2021-2027): What are the key challenges that are common across the EU and require further OSH policy action? Please select up to four answers.

at most 4 choice(s)

- Preparedness for future threats to workers' health and safety (e.g. infectious diseases)
- Risks from dangerous substances (e.g. chemicals / carcinogens)
- Promotion of international OSH policy collaboration dimension
- OSH risks emerging from climate and environmental change (such as infectious diseases)
- Other
- Psychosocial risks (increased work intensity, blurring of work-private life, etc.)
- OSH risks emerging from the rise of platform economy (gig-work, increased precarious and atypical work)
- Ergonomic risks and musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs)
- Increased working from home / teleworking
- OSH risks emerging from robotics/automation/new technologies
- OSH risks to specific socio-demographic groups (women, migrants, etc.)
- OSH risks emerging from nanotechnology/nanomaterials
- OSH risks emerging from ICT/digitalisation (increased digitalisation, AI, workers' surveillance, right to disconnect)

If chosen "Other" please specify:

500 character(s) maximum

This is too focused on risks - future EU policy should balance this with OSH opportunities, e.g. from robotics, digitalisation, teleworking etc. Ergonomic/musculoskeletal and psychosocial issues are not only OSH related - they are also issues outside the workplace. We need to be prepared regarding future infectious diseases, drawing lessons from the current pandemic, including better interaction between OSH and public health policy, whilst distinguishing responsibilities of different actors.

What practical solutions do you suggest to address all or some of these key challenges?

2500 character(s) maximum

Practical solutions to deal with OSH issues depend on national context, i.e. economic situation, industrial relations system, sectors of economic activity, overall OSH situation and specific needs. They also differ from one sector to another, between companies and even individual workers for some aspects. General practical solutions could be of common added value, such as:

- Promoting social dialogue at different levels, in line with national industrial relations systems
- Exchange of good practice, peer learning – between member states and involving social partners
- Developing tools, guidance and practical support to employers and workers to deal with OSH issues/risks and comply with legislation
- Exchanging on tools and guidance developed at national/sectoral/ company level by governments, social partners, employers/workers
- Guidance and information campaigns – especially for issues where work-related and non- work-related aspects are combined, e.g. MSDs/ergonomics, psychosocial
- Coordination across policy areas, e.g. chemicals and environment, REACH and OSH, OSH and public health (particularly in view of future pandemics), whilst clearly distinguishing between the responsibilities of different actors, DGs and other bodies (e.g. ACSH).
- Ensuring any changes to legislation are based on a necessary modernisation/updating, are evidence-based, including thorough impact assessment, and result in a simplified implementation on the ground by companies of all sizes, across sectors, across the EU. Ensuring rules and transposition is adapted to realities of small companies. Reducing excessive bureaucratic burden.

In relation to digitalisation, the European social partners recent framework agreement includes useful elements to deal with OSH opportunities and challenges of digitalisation, as part of a jointly managed, dynamic process between employers, worker representatives, at different levels.

Drawing lessons learned from the current pandemic, we suggest:

- Making sure a comparable overview of the data and figures from the Member States is available for evidence-based lessons learned and future actions
- Collection of best practices via all available channels (national health and safety councils, EU-OSHA, social partners, OSH-professionals, prevention institutions, etc.)
- Application of best practices in all EU-institutions (exemplary role) and dissemination in the world of work (campaigns, websites, newsletter, training, education, etc.)

How important do you think it is that a new EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work covering the next seven years contributes to...

	Very Important	Important	Slightly Important	Not Important	Don't know
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promoting higher occupational safety and health standards in the world	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
preventing work-related diseases and accidents	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
improving OSH strategies at national level?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
anticipating and managing change for better and longer working lives	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
ensuring evidence-based policy	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
improving the application of EU rules	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Should a new EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work define in detail a list of objectives, actions, timelines and actors involved in the implementation of such actions, or should it set a vision for the future, and a definition of goals and priorities?

- Define in detail a list of objectives, actions, timelines and actors involved in the implementation of such actions
- Set a vision for the future, and a definition of goals and priorities
- Don't know

In your view, what main issues should be included in the successor to the current EU OSH Strategic Framework, covering the next seven years?

2500 character(s) maximum

Current strategic framework:

- Consolidating national strategies, including involving national social partners.
- Improving enforcement of existing OSH legislation by Member States and facilitating compliance, particularly by micro/small enterprises, to ensure a level playing field across the EU for worker protection and companies operating in the single market. Making existing legislation easier to implement on the ground, which is also impacted by member state transposition. Encouraging labour inspectorates to focus not only on enforcement but also guidance and tools to assist compliance.

Other issues:

- Support to implement prevention strategies and foster better understanding of hierarchy of prevention approach as basis of EU legislation, and explaining its effectiveness.
- Promoting preventive culture in society, through education system, changing behaviours.
- Reaping OSH opportunities and addressing OSH challenges of digitalisation. Not only focus on risks, as many of the gains are in OSH. Regarding challenges related to psychosocial aspects and connectivity, workers and employers need targeted guidance and practical tools to manage these in a way which safeguards workers' wellbeing and productivity. A one size fits all legislative approach is not appropriate.
- Ergonomics/psychosocial issues require a holistic approach across policy areas as they are not only work-related. Impact is very subjective. Guidance and practical tools to be tailored to individual/company situation are most effective, rather than a legislative approach.

- Continue actions preventing exposure to carcinogens and risks from other chemical substances by updating CAD and CMD, on the basis of scientific evidence, technical feasibility and analysis of socio-economic impact. Priority substances should be identified and follow-up to the ACSH opinion to improve the interplay between OSH and REACH.
- Pandemic has highlighted the need for better synergy between public health and OSH. Improving the understanding outside the OSH world of the dynamic risk-based approach, hierarchy of prevention, OSH procedures and structures.
- Unprecedented increase in use of telework from the pandemic may lead to increased use in the future. Ensure obligations of different actors are clear (e.g. employers obligations restricted to areas within their control) and provide tools to help employers and workers work in a safe, healthy and productive way.

You may share any additional remarks or statement(s) regarding the topic of this public consultation here.

NB: Remember to remove any personal information from these documents in case you have opted for publication of your contributions in an anonymised way.

500 character(s) maximum

The structure of the next strategic framework should more clearly delineate strategic objectives, goals on specific issues and actions, to make assessment of implementation easier. Actions should be measurable, including indicators. Whilst social partners have been involved in discussions on the strategic framework and in delivery of actions through the ACSH, this could be improved by more frequent input on progress on objectives and actions. This would help increase ownership.

Contact

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