



Scientific seminar

The care sector crisis as a turning point:

Advancing collective bargaining in the care sector of Central and Eastern European countries

June 23 2025, 14.00 – 16.00 CEST online

Zoom link: xxx

Translation into Slovak and English will be provided

We warmly invite you to join us for the presentation and discussion of a new comparative report on **collective bargaining in the care sector in Central and Eastern Europe**, produced within the international research project **CEECAW: Challenges for Organising and Collective Bargaining in Care, Administration and Waste Collection Sectors in Central and Eastern European Countries**.

The report analyses the **state of employment and social dialogue in the care sector** across 12 countries: **Bulgaria, Croatia, Czechia, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, and Slovenia**.

The care sector (covering **long-term care, early childhood education and care, and social assistance services**) is vital to public well-being. However, a recent 2024 research shows that this essential sector remains **underfunded, fragmented, and undervalued**, facing labour shortages, ageing staff, poor working conditions, and weak collective bargaining.

Join us to discuss the **findings from across the region**, their implications for future policy and practice, and exchange experiences and strategies for **reinvigorating organising and bargaining** in care.

The event will feature:

- A presentation of the comparative report

- Commentary by experts and trade union representatives
- A panel discussion on European insights

[Register here](#)



**Challenges for Organising and Collective Bargaining
in Care, Administration and Waste collection sectors
in Central Eastern European Countries**

Agenda

Moderator: Marta Kahancová, CELSI

- 14.00-14.10 Welcome and introduction to the CEECAW project – moderator
- 14.10-14.30 Presentation of the comparative report “The care sector in crisis: Challenges for social partners in Central and Eastern Europe”, Maciej Pańków, ISP
- 14.30-14.45 Reflections on the comparative report
Dr. Anna Mori, University of Milano, care sector expert
- 14.45 – 15.00 The Czech and Slovak perspectives: Findings on the care sector crisis and ways forward for collective bargaining, Simona Brunnerová, CELSI
- 15.00 – 15.15 Online Slido poll with discussion
- 15.15 – 15.45 Panel discussion to reflect the turning point in the care sector and ways forward for collective bargaining
- Panelists:
- Social Employers Europe, Sylvain Renouvel
- Anna Mori, International care sector expert
- Slovenský odborový zväz zdravotníctva a sociálnych služieb - Slovak trade union federation of healthcare and social services, Anton Szalay
- Association of care providers in Slovakia, Anna Ghanamová
- Odborový svaz zdravotníctví a sociální péče ČR – Trade union federation of health and social services of the Czech Republic, Jana Hnyková a Dagmar Žitníková
- 15.45 – 15.55 Key conclusions for ways forward in collective bargaining, EPSU, Samantha Howe
- 15.55 – 16.00 Closing the event and announcing other activities of the CEECAW project
Maciej Pańków, IPA



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