

Training Activities

The training programme is designed around six pedagogic areas: basic research methods and principles, language, advanced social research/comparative epistemologies, comparative European social models/political economy, applied training, and transferable skills allowing writing and presenting as well as disseminating research to academic and policymaker audiences.

These will be delivered through several types of activity: (a) continuous 'training through research' (b) basic research methods training during the first year at home institutions; (c) partner exchange visits, employment periods, secondments and fieldwork with both Full and Associated Partners and (d) network-wide training events:

- Network School Year 1 in Gothenburg, May 2013: **Classical Works in Work Science.**
- Network School Year 1 in Evry, November 2013: **Comparative Labour Sociology**, and Annual Colloquium Year 1: **Theoretical background of ESR projects.**
- Network School Year 2 in Leuven, June 2014: **Labour markets, Flexicurity & Social Dialogue.**
- Network School Year 2 in Wroclaw, November 2014: **Comparative European Social Models** and Annual Colloquium Year 2: **Comparative Methodology & Paradigms**
- Annual Colloquium Year 3 in Strathclyde, November 2015: **Research findings**
- Annual Colloquium Year 4 in Leuven/Brussels, November 2016: **Policy & social impact of changing employment**

There will be opportunities for participants outside of the network to get involved in training events taking place 2014-2016, please follow us on twitter, like our Facebook page or subscribe to our RSS news feed on our webpage to stay informed.



KU LEUVEN

Coordinator office contacts

Professor Paul Stewart (Coordinator)
Claire Scott (Administrator)

Dept of Human Resource Management
University of Strathclyde
Glasgow, G1 1QE
Tel: +44 (0) 141 548 3113

Email: changing-employment@strath.ac.uk

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/ChangingEmploy>

Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/ChangingEmployment>

URL: <http://www.changingemployment.eu/>



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Introduction

The Changing Employment project aims to train a cross-European and interdisciplinary network of policy-focused social scientists comprehensively skilled in understanding, analysing, and responding to social and institutional employment changes.

“The changing nature of employment in Europe in the context of challenges, threats and opportunities for employees and employers” is an exciting new international comparative European FP7 Marie Curie Initial Training Network (ITN) of Early Stage Researchers (ESRs) and Experienced Researchers (ERs) preparing for doctoral and post-doctoral research. It is amongst a small number of multi-disciplinary social science programmes to be awarded funding in the current Marie Curie awards under the European Union’s Seventh Framework Programme for Research and Development (FP7). The ITN, co-ordinated by the University of Strathclyde-Glasgow, has successfully obtained 4,060,000 Euros to support the network bringing together new and recent post graduate researchers working on an international post graduate research programme supervised by internationally renowned senior academics.

The programme features attendance at twice yearly seminars at participating European partner universities and institutions, participation at regular theme seminars, and an annual network colloquium. The ESRs and ERs are participating in one of the three themes, working with other Fellows across the 48 months of the programme. This is a distinctive opportunity to participate in, and mature within, a highly imaginative international social science training network, developing research practice and state of the art engagement with global practitioners in private and public sector institutions and trade unions.

Duration: December 2012 - November 2016

Consortium Participants

The Changing Employment network comprises nine Full Academic Partners and nine Associate Partners. Throughout its 48 month duration, the network will employ three Experienced Researchers (post-doctoral level) and 12 Early Stage Researchers (doctoral level) who each undertake research in pre-defined projects.

Full Partners

Department of Human Resource Management, University of Strathclyde, UK (Strath)

Contacts: Profs. Paul Stewart, Dora Scholarios, Dr Kirsty Newsome (Sheffield University)

Department of Sociology and Work Science, University of Gothenburg, Sweden (UGOT)

Contacts: Drs. Tommy Isirdorsson, Kristina Håkansson

Institut de Sociologie - METICES, Université Libre de Bruxelles, Belgium (ULB)

Contact: Prof. Pierre Desmarez

Department of Sociology, University of Paris Evry, France (UEVE)

Contact: Prof. Stephen Bouquin

Centre for Policy Studies, Central European University, Hungary (CEU)

Contact: Dr Violetta Zentai

Departamento de Sociología, University of Oviedo, Spain (UNIOVI)

Contact: Prof. Holm-Detlev Köhler

Faculty of Social Science, University of Wroclaw, Poland (UWR)

Contacts: Dr Adam Mrozowick, Dr hab. Iwona Taranowicz

Working Lives Research Institute, London Metropolitan University, UK (Londonmet)

Contacts: Dr Irene Gedalof, Prof. Sonia McKay, Drs Cilla Ross & Leroi Henry (Northampton University)

Center for Sociological Research, Catholic University of Leuven (K.U.Leuven)

Contact: Prof. Valeria Pulignano

Associate Partners

Academic: Dr María Luz Rodríguez Fernández, University of Castilla-La Mancha (UCLM)

Non Academic: ETUI, ConsultingEuropa, ILO, Neuroedukacja, UNISON, Edrington, Volvo, CAIRDE teo

Research programme

The scientific objectives of the programme are to identify the nature of the restructuring of European labour markets and economies as a result of current economic and social change, and to explore the impact on work relations and working lives, recognising that this will have implications for gender, ethnicity and young and older people at work. We explore these questions around **three themes**:

Theme 1: Management and Employees

Theme Leader: Prof. Stephen Bouquin
Five researchers (UEVE, ULB, CEU, UNIOVI)

Specific objectives:

- to examine Multi-National Corporation (MNC) HR strategies in the context of the current economic crisis;
- to understand the form and character of worker representation with a view to disseminating best practice.

Theme 2: Inclusion and Exclusion

Theme Leader: Prof. Paul Stewart
Six researchers (Strath, UWR, Londonmet, K.U.Leuven)

Specific objective:

- to explore new developments, including those emerging from the economic crisis, with regard to inclusion/exclusion at work, particularly the consequences of unemployment, migration and precarious work and, increasingly, inequalities arising from age (both young and older workers), ethnicity and gender.

Theme 3: Employee Wellbeing and Work Life Quality

Theme Leader: Dr Tommy Isirdorsson
Four researchers (UGOT, Strath, UEVE)

Specific objective:

- to examine the impact of contemporary forms of work and employment flexibility ('flexicurity' or 'precariousness') on the quality of working life.