



# POWBRIDGE

Bridging the gap between legislation  
and practice in the posting of workers



Funded by  
the European Union

## POW-BRIDGE NEWSLETTER No. 1, AUGUST 2020

**POW-BRIDGE** is a two-year project funded by the European Commission through DG Employment's EaSI Programme. The central goals of **POW-Bridge** are

- to study possible gaps between procedures (legal basis) and practices (experiences) in the rules governing the posting of workers,
- to identify challenges, and
- to develop and share effective solutions for posting companies and agencies tasked with enforcing posting legislation.

Thereby, a particular focus is on the possible challenges resulting from interactions between the revised Posting of Workers Directive passed in 2018 and other relevant EU and national legislation.

### CORE ACTIVITIES

**POW-Bridge** supports an inclusive, participatory and transparent implementation process of the Posting of Workers Directive through:

- transnational cooperation (improving cross-border collaboration between stakeholders and promoting employer involvement in evidence-based policymaking),
- comparative research involving innovative methods such as vignettes (analysing and comparing the situation in different countries),
- information dissemination (providing policymakers, enforcement agencies, employers and other stakeholders with research results).

In order to bring together all partners and other invited stakeholders and discuss rule enactment by employers and public agencies with a solution-oriented approach two *Mutual Learning Labs* will be organized in 2020 and 2021 – one for identifying the challenges in rule enactment and one for addressing these challenges and developing policy recommendations. The research findings consulted with members of the Strategic Board composed of social partners and public authorities will be distributed through the publication of eight country reports, a comparative working paper and the policy briefs. They will be also the basis for eight short video podcasts showing the steps that posting companies have to follow in the application of national and EU legislation. A final conference in Venice in 2021 will bring together all participating partners and external policy experts to discuss and disseminate the project's findings.



*The first meeting of the consortium in the format of a kick-off event took place in Vienna on Thursday, 27 February 2020. The meeting was followed by a methodology seminar, in which the research design and the vignette method were discussed in detail.*



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## PROJECT PARTNERS & ASSOCIATE ORGANIZATIONS

**POW-Bridge** covers eight countries across Europe (Austria, Slovenia, Italy, Hungary, Poland, Serbia, North Macedonia and Slovakia). The countries include sending and receiving countries in the context of flows of posted workers as well as EU member states and candidate countries. The project is carried out by six project partners and several associated organisations located in these countries.



**European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research (Austria)** – the consortium leader is an intergovernmental organisation affiliated to the United Nations. Its purpose is to foster the collaboration in social welfare between governments and organisations by 1) providing applied social science and comparative empirical research; 2) forging the evidence-base for social policymaking and mutual learning; and 3) initiating future-oriented public policy debates by networking.



**Ca' Foscari University of Venice (Italy)** – is recognized as one of the best universities in Italy offering its students diverse and ample study programmes. In the Department of Philosophy and Cultural Heritage, the Laboratory for Social Research carries out sociological studies and research, with particular attention to work, inequalities, migrations, racism and social citizenship.



**Centre of Migration Research, University of Warsaw (Poland)** – remains a leading interdisciplinary inter-faculty research unit of the University of Warsaw, specializing in studies on migration processes in Poland and in Europe. The Centre has been involved in a number of migration projects (varying in scale), funded by national and international sources.



**Association for Research, Communications and Development "Public" (North Macedonia)** – is an independent, non-profit organization for research and advocacy that 1) follows and fosters the ecosystem development of social enterprises in the country and in the region; 2) analyses the processes of social inclusion; 3) creates instruments for social inclusion and impact, raises awareness and measures the impact of different stakeholders in the social economy, as well as the traditional business sectors; 4) applies new technologies and scientific societal methodologies in the development of sustainable social processes.



**Center for Social Policy (Serbia)** – is an independent think tank based in Belgrade, dedicated to the improvement of public policies, with the goal to catalyse inclusive growth, create a cohesive society and an effective and efficient welfare state. CSP influences the creation of public policies through independent and innovative research aimed at solving key social challenges. CSP also provides capacity building of stakeholders in the area of social welfare and organizes public debates that additionally enhance participation in the policymaking process.



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**University of Primorska (Slovenia)** – is third largest public university in Slovenia. It was established in 2003 as a centre of knowledge implementing European educational strategies. The main objective of this vibrant university is to carry out high-quality study and research programmes, implementing and integrating them with the educational, intellectual and research potential in accordance with EU strategies. UP consists of six faculties and one research centre.



**Centre of Social and Psychological Sciences (Slovakia)** – is one of the centres of the Slovak Academy of Sciences (SAV), which is the national, non-university science and research institute established according the separate law. Along its main mission, which is to carry out top-level basic research at the frontiers of knowledge, SAV is also focused on applied research and development, and based on cooperation with the business sector, the public sector, and civil society aims to transfer knowledge into practice.

Project activities will be carried out in close cooperation with the following associate partners based in:

- **Austria:** Kammer für Arbeiter und Angestellte, Wien (Chamber of Labour);
- **Italy:** Federazione Italiana Lavoratori Legno Edilizia E Affini Cgil (trade union); Federazione Italiana Lavoratori Dei Trasporti Cgil (trade union); Ispettorato Interregionale Del Lavoro Di Emilia Romagna, Friuli Venezia Giulia, Marche, Veneto (labour inspectorate);
- **North Macedonia:** Ministry of Labour and Social Policy; Trade Union of Civil Engineering, Industry and Planning of Republic of Macedonia;
- **Serbia:** Ministry of Labour, Employment, Veteran and Social Affairs; Social Inclusion and Poverty Reduction Unit of the Government of the Republic of Serbia; Trade Union Confederation "Nezavisnost";
- **Slovenia:** Confederation of Trade Unions of Slovenia Pergam; The Association of Free Trade Unions of Slovenia (Zveza Svobodnih Sindikatov Slovenije); Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Slovenia.
- **Slovakia:** Metal Workers Union (Odborový zväz KOVO).



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## CONTACT

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