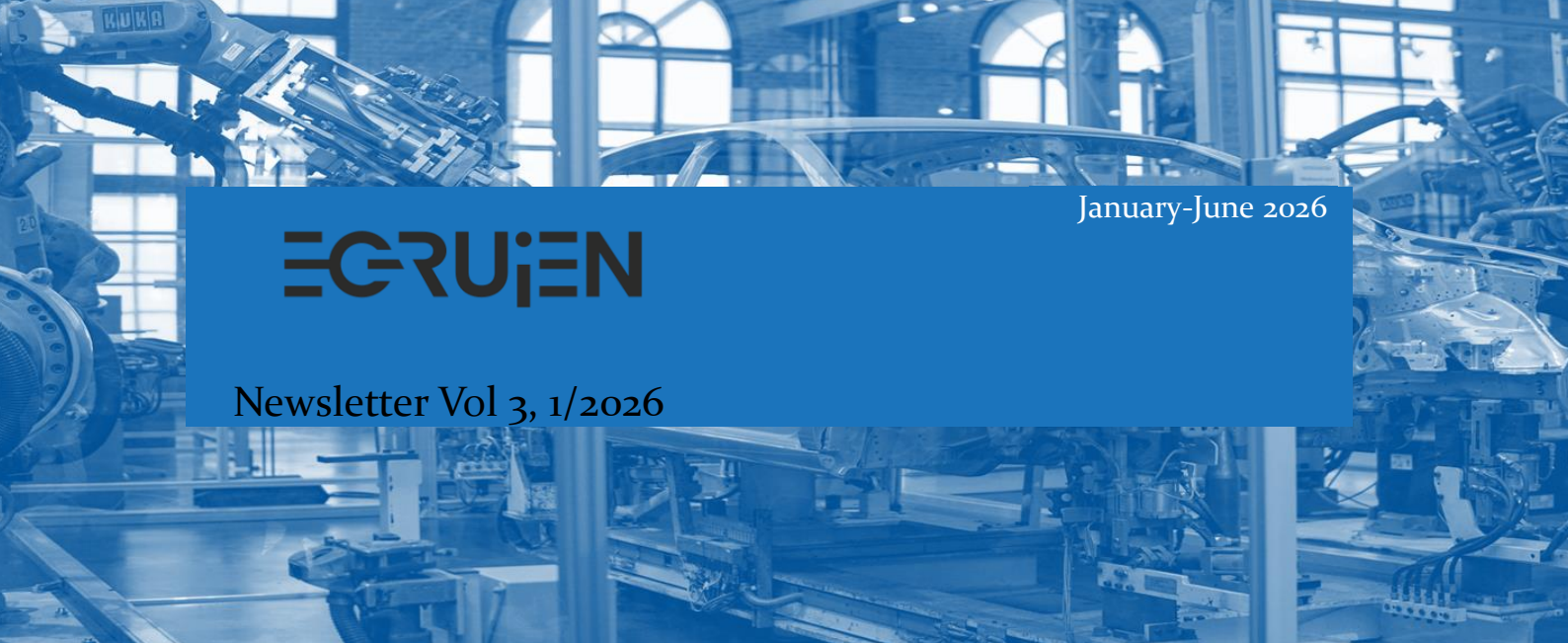




January-June 2026

EGRUiEN

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HALF A YEAR OF COLLABORATION

Research thrives when different perspectives come together.

The first months of 2026 have shown that EGRUiEN is much more than just a research project. It is a network of universities, research institutes, and social partners who are working together to find answers to the question of how to ensure that the green and digital transitions also benefit workers.

On June 11, the first meeting of the EGRUiEN project's Strategic Board organised by CELSI with collaboration of other partners took place – it was an important milestone in the project's implementation that marked the beginning of a new phase of cooperation between the research team and representatives of European organizations representing workers and employers from Slovakia, Finland, Spain, and other countries.

The meeting was attended by project partners and members of the Strategic Board - experts and representatives of the social partners whose experience allows them to view the research findings from a practical perspective. Through regular consultations with the Strategic Board, the project can continuously compare research findings with the experiences of organizations operating in the labour market, thereby increasing their usefulness and potential impact on the shaping of future public policies. The first meeting of the Strategic Board was therefore more than just a review of the project's progress - it became a space for dialogue and a joint search for solutions that will help build a just economic and social transition Europe.

THE FUTURE OF WORK IS A SHARED DISCUSSION

The transformation of the labour market is happening right here and now - which is why the exchange of experiences among researchers, social partners, and policymakers is so important.

The two most important events of the first half of 2026 were the project meeting in Zaragoza and the online event "The New World of Work".



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The Zaragoza Meeting: Two Days of Discussions That Set the Course for the Coming Months



March began with a meeting of project partners in Zaragoza. Over two intensive days, researchers from across Europe worked on what lies at the heart of EGRUiEN - a shared understanding of how the green and digital transitions are affecting workers, businesses, and social dialogue. We were hosted by the wonderful team at the University of Zaragoza.

Although each team conducts research in a different country and in a different field, it is precisely these meetings that allow us to weave individual stories into a broader European picture.

Discussions focused on progress in the automotive, energy, care, and on-demand transport sectors, as well as on refining research methods that will enable us to compare results across countries.

We also discussed about upcoming publications, dissemination activities, and plans for the second half of the year. This was the moment when many elements of the project began to come together into a coherent strategy.



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Three Horizon Europe projects, one goal

In May, EGRUiEN joined forces with its sister projects FUTOURWORK and INTEGRATE-DIALOGUE to organize the international online event “The New World of Work”. The webinar brought together researchers, public administration representatives, social partners, and experts from across Europe (Norway, Italy, UK, Austria, Denmark) who were seeking answers to questions about how the world of work is changing and how to prepare for these changes.

The central theme of the meeting was the EU Platform Work Directive and its impact on workers’ rights, social dialogue, and the functioning of the labour market. Speakers demonstrated that the development of digital platforms poses new challenges for Europe - ranging from ensuring adequate employment conditions to developing effective mechanisms for worker representation.

For EGRUiEN, the event was also an opportunity to present the current state of research to a wider audience and to exchange experiences with teams working on projects with similar themes. Joint initiatives with sister projects allow us to examine the transformation of the labor market from various perspectives and build knowledge that will be useful for researchers, policymakers, and social partners alike.

This was yet another reminder that the greatest challenges require collective action, not working in isolation.

Europe in Practice: What do the energy sector in Estonia, the automotive industry in Finland, and platform-based transportation in Austria have in common?

Although the starting points are different sectors and different countries, research conducted as part of EGRUiEN shows that many of the challenges associated with the transition share a common denominator.

Project partners are developing national case studies, analysing the impact of technological and climate change on employment, labour-management relations, and the functioning of social dialogue. It is precisely thanks to these local experiences that it will be possible to create European recommendations based on real-world examples.

→ Explore selected [case studies](#) on our website.



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FROM HISTORY TO THE FUTURE

Every transformation is a lesson learned.

In recent months, research teams have completed the next phase of historical analyses concerning changes taking place in selected sectors of the European economy.

How did previous transformations affect workplaces? What determined their success? What role did social dialogue play? The answers to these questions serve as the starting point for further research conducted within the EGRUiEN project.

It is precisely this knowledge that will form the basis for subsequent analyses and recommendations prepared by the project.



An increasing number of research teams are publishing the results of national analyses concerning the transformation of selected economic sectors.

Our focus is on four sectors:

- energy,
- automotive,
- care sector,
- and ride-hailing.

The teams have already almost completed fieldwork and interviews in the energy and automotive sectors, while we still need to establish and implement research protocols in the on-demand transportation and care sectors. Case studies show that while the challenges are common across Europe, solutions often stem from local experiences and traditions of social dialogue.

Good ideas are born during conversations.

The consortium's regular working meetings are not just about updating the schedule. Above all, they provide a space to exchange experiences, compare research findings, and collaboratively explore new ideas.

In recent months, the partners have been working on the next stages of sector-specific research, preparing publications, and developing an action plan for the second half of the year.

It is during these meetings that individual analyses begin to form a coherent narrative about the future of the European labour market.



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From the EGRUiEN calendar

Past Events

- Project partners' meeting in Zaragoza
- “The New World of Work” webinar
- First meeting of the Strategic Board

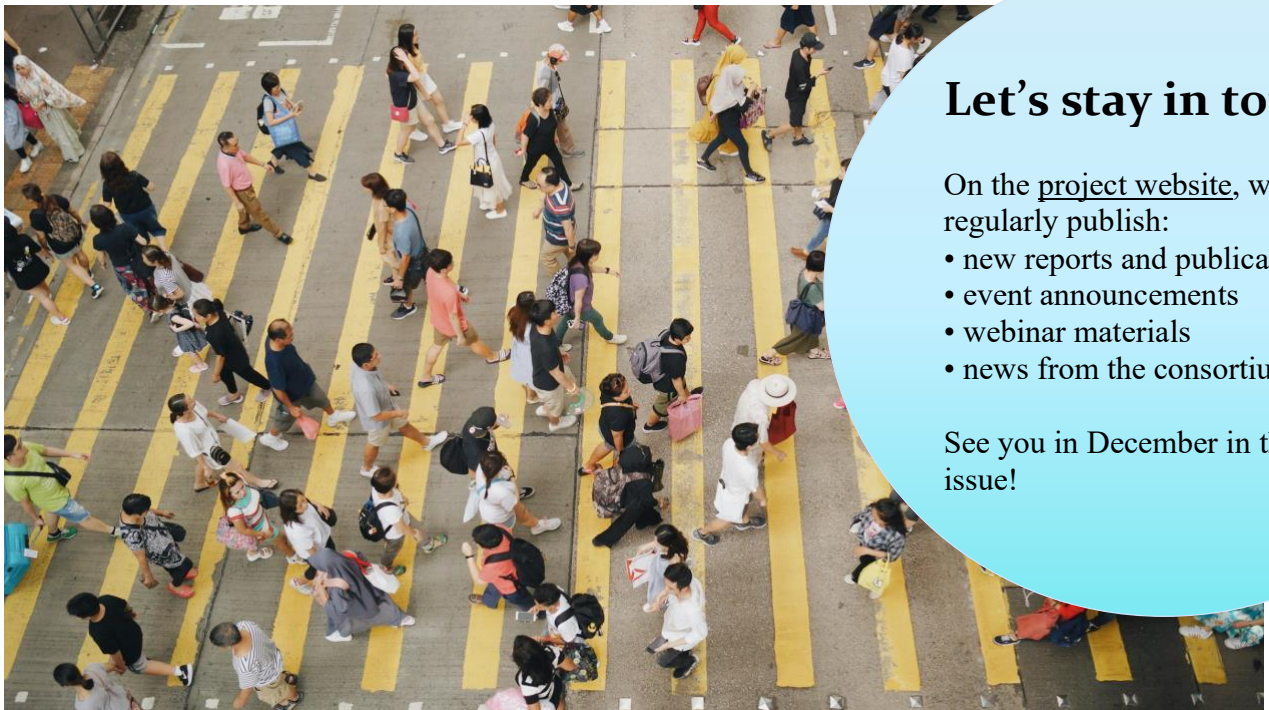
Upcoming Events

- publication of further research results,
- development of national case studies,
- continued collaboration with social partners,
- preparation of recommendations for policymakers.

The coming months promise to be busy. Our partners are set to conduct further sector-specific research, publish findings, and carry out activities involving social partners. We are also getting closer to the stage where the results of our analyses will be translated into concrete recommendations for European public policies.

We will keep you updated on the project's progress and invite you to participate in upcoming events.

Also, check out our social media: [LinkedIn](#), [Facebook](#), [BlueSky](#), [Instagram](#)



Let's stay in touch

On the [project website](#), we regularly publish:

- new reports and publications
- event announcements
- webinar materials
- news from the consortium

See you in December in the next issue!



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