



European Workplace Innovation Network | **October Bulletin**

[EUWIN](#) is an initiative of the European Commission's Directorate General for Enterprise & Industry

Eastern Approaches

EUWIN'S Sofia Workshop paves the way for an innovative future



On a splendidly sunny day in Sofia over 100 participants from business, government, academia and trade unions were attracted to the European Commission Representation Office for a day of knowledge sharing, exploration and debate about workplace innovation in South Eastern Europe. *Advanced Workplaces for Advanced Business* on 29th September brought together participants from Bulgaria, Greece, Italy, Romania and Serbia as well as speakers and EUWIN representatives from across Europe.



Rosemary Exton, UK Work Organisation Network (UK WON)

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How is quality of work connected to the competitive strength of companies?

6th November 2014: EUWIN's Rouen Workshop



This is the theme of EUWIN's regional workshop in Rouen which will now take place on 6th November 2014. Six national and international companies will share their experiences and participants will also be able to join a series of 'practical ateliers'. You can even experience workplace innovation in a 'cooking experiment' performed by Flanders Synergy. Social partners will discuss the French approach to workplace innovation, and there will be plenty of opportunities for discussion and networking.

More details can be found [here](#) and on our French partner sites ([ANACT](#), [ARACT Haute-Normandie](#), [CARSAT](#)).

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Thinkpiece



An occasional series in which we invite leading researchers and practitioners to offer personal perspectives on workplace innovation. Here, Steven Dhondt shows how EUWIN has uncovered the growing workplace innovation movement in Eastern Europe – revealing some surprising examples of good practice.

Our strong Eastern EUWIN coalition

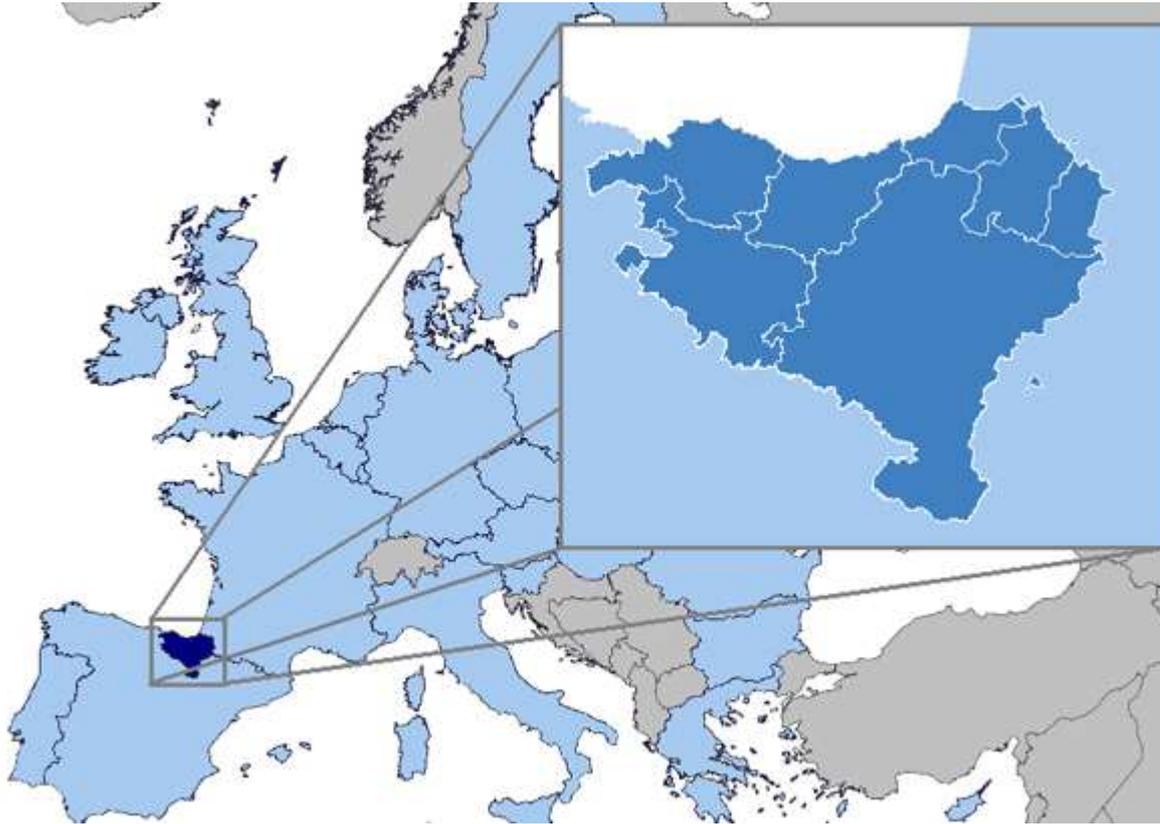
Workplace innovation would seem to be a Western European thing. Anyway that is what policy makers think. And probably a lot of managers are thinking that. And, I admit, I did have that idea too. Is it right?



Steven Dhondt, EUWIN Co-ordinator

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Workplace innovation in the Basque Country



National and regional authorities in several parts of Europe are beginning to recognise the importance of workplace innovation for competitiveness and employment. EUWIN is playing an important role in stimulating and informing these policy discussions.

EUWIN partner Antonio Corral reports that workplace innovation is still underrepresented in the Basque Country, but regional and provincial governments are now taking the challenge seriously.



by Antonio Corral (Unit Director, IKEI Research and Consultancy)

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Putting professionals at the heart of the organisation: self-organised teamworking at Thebe



Van alle zorg thuis!

Thebe is a healthcare organisation with offices in Central and West Brabant (The Netherlands). In order to ensure that employees feel engaged with a large organisation and to meet the needs of their clients, Thebe has decided to put professionals at the heart of its strategy and allow them to manage care themselves through self-organising teams.

Rob Stam, a Director of Thebe, explains the reasons, the process and the results in an interview with TNO.



Rob Stam, Director of Thebe

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Please Forward

Thank you for being part of [euwin](#). Together we bring together the knowledge, experience and enthusiasm of enterprises, employees, unions, employers' organisations, policymakers and researchers from across Europe. Spread the word! Please forward this briefing to your colleagues, associates and suppliers. Ask them to sign up [here](#). Make sure they don't miss out.