WORLD EMPLOYMENT CONFEDERATION

The Voice of Labour Market Enablers

Activity Report

2021



About the World Employment Confederation

The World Employment Confederation is the voice of the private employment services industry at the global level, representing national federations as well as workforce solutions companies from across the world. Members of the World Employment Confederation represent a wide range of HR services, including agency work, direct recruitment, career management, Recruitment Process Outsourcing (RPO) and Managed Service Provider (MSP).

The World Employment Confederation works to broaden recognition of the positive economic and social role which the private employment services industry plays in enabling work, adaptation, security and prosperity. This role involves building networks with relevant stakeholders such as policy makers, social partners and the academic world; setting high recruitment and employment standards and practices; acting as a thought-leader shaping futureproof and competitive labour markets and providing strategic data on employment issues.



Denis Pennel Managing Director

Foreword

2021 has proven to be just as challenging as 2020... For two years in a row, the Covid-19 pandemic has continued to impact both our industry and our day-to-day working conditions. Yet, in many countries the industry has managed to recover from the crisis, with markets returning to the same level of activities as in 2019.

Within the World Employment Confederation, we have worked hard to support our members in mitigating the impact of the crisis and to strengthen our service offer. Guided by a new leadership (both at European and global level) and Strategic Plan, we have launched several new initiatives to make our advocacy more impactful, expand our reach, empower our members, increase our value and lead with talent.

The World Employment Confederation exists to enable better labour market outcomes for all, by supporting the sustainable development of our industry – an industry that now, more than ever, has a key role to play in shaping a changing world of work. The Covid-19 pandemic and the profound transformations that it has brought to labour markets reinforces the need for both workers and businesses to be accompanied and helped to navigate changes.

As the world of work reinvents itself, the future of the private employment services industry can only be bright, and our organisation is well-equipped to be a part of that future.

Content

- 3 Foreword
- 6 Milestones 2021



- 18 Governance
- 21 About the World Employment Confederation
- 22 WEC Intelligence Resources & products

WEC Head Office



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Manager



John Towey Partnerships Manager (contractor)



Milestones 2021

Throughout the year and around the world, the World Employment Confederation (WEC) and its members pursued their mission of promoting the interests of the private employment services industry. Here are some of the key 2021 milestones.

WEC & IOE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR "ROAD TO RECOVERY"

The World Employment Confederation issues a series of recommendations with the International Organisation of Employers to outline a path to a job rich, productive, sustainable and quality road to recovery.

FEBRUARY

Policy Priorities for the Road

to a Sustainable Job Recovery Well encoded and the second second

MARCH

WEC-IOE-ILO JOINT EVENT ON PLATFORM WORK

The World Employment Confederation , the International Organisation of Employers and the International Labour Organisation organise an online event to discuss how to better balance workers' entitlements and employers' interests in platform work.

FEBRUARY

NEW LEADERSHIP FOR WEC-EUROPE

Herman Nijns, CEO of Randstad Belgium & Luxembourg, is elected as the new President of WEC-Europe. Menno Bart from The Adecco Group and Agostino Di Maio from the Italian federation Assolavoro also join the Executive Committee as new members.

JUNE

WEC-EUROPE MANIFESTO FOR "RECOVERY, REFORM, RESILIENCE"

The World Employment Confederation-Europe puts forward concrete recommendations on how the private employment services sector can contribute to "Recovery, Reform, Resilience" during and after the Covid-19 crisis; and what policies are needed at EU and national levels to make labour markets more agile and inclusive.

SOCIAL IMPACT REPORT 2021

Through workers' stories and data collected from members, WEC's annual publication demonstrates the positive contribution that the private employment services sector makes in building more resilient and inclusive labour markets across the world.



STAFFING EXECUTIVE REGULATORY OUTLOOK (SERO)

WEC launches a new quarterly survey amongst the top executives of its National Federation members around the world to assess the likelihood of regulatory change as well as the potential impact of these changes on the agency work sector.

NOVEMBER

WEC AWARDS 2021

WEC AWARDS 2021

DECEMBER

In a competition that spanned the entire world, Agest (Chile), Assolavoro (Italy) and NHO SH (Norway) stood out and are the winners of the WEC Awards 2021.



SEPTEMBER

SEPTEMBER - WORLD EMPLOYMENT CONFERENCE 2021

The first-ever online edition of the annual WEC event brought together more than 300 participants from across the world to discuss the developments transforming labour markets and to reflect collectively on the solutions needed to steer this transformation in a sustainable direction.



Advocacy Global

The World Employment Confederation (WEC) has regular dialogue with key global policymakers to ensure a supportive legal and regulatory environment for the private employment services industry.

Covid-19: paving the road to sustainable recovery

The public affairs agenda in 2021 was still heavily influenced by the Covid-19 pandemic and the substantial crisis it triggered for the economy and labour markets. The World Employment Confederation developed a series of **recommendations** with the International Organisation of Employers (IOE) to outline a path to a job rich, productive, sustainable and quality road to recovery.

Amongst the impacts of the Covid-19 crisis, the increase in labour market transitions is one that requires immediate attention. In the conclusions of its **109th International Labour Conference**,

the International Labour Organisation (ILO) highlighted the pivotal role that the private employment services sector plays in "assisting people of all ages in labour transitions" as well as in "fighting against inequality in the world of work".

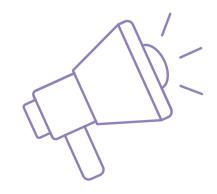
This challenge of activation and transition was also central to the OECD **Employment Outlook 2021** which singled out cooperation between public and private employment services as one effective way forward - an approach that has long been implemented by the World Employment Confederation's members. The topic was also discussed by the World Employment Confederation with the World Association of Public **Employment Services** (WAPES) and the ILO



Policy Priorities for the Road to a Sustainable Job Recovery World Employment Confederation and International Organisation of Employers Joint Position Paper



WEC-IOE joint position paper for recovery from the Covid-19 crisis (March 2021)





WEC-IOE-ILO webinar on platform work regulation (March 2021)

Platform work: building coalitions to ensure decent work

Regulation of platform work became a hot policy issue in 2021, with global policymakers and stakeholders attempting to better balance workers' entitlements and employers' interests. The World Employment Confederation took a leading role in this discussion, organising a joint event with the ILO and the IOE in March to discuss the best way forward. Other technology-related topics also dominated WEC's agenda in 2021. The **Blockchain** Task Force continued its collaboration with the Velocity Network to implement digital wallets for job seekers and several meetings were held with the OECD to discuss the deployment of **Artificial Intelligence** in employment.





Adverse regulation: strengthening the toolbox

Overall, regulation remains a key driver – positively or negatively - of the sustainable growth of the private employment services industry, and the agency work segment in particular. In 2021, several countries – including Mexico, Norway, Spain and Chile - faced adverse situations, restricting the potential positive role played by agency work in better functioning labour markets. In addition to providing specific support to its members in those countries, the World Employment Confederation reinforced its toolbox for monitoring and anticipating regulatory changes with the launch of the Staffing **Executive Regulatory** Outlook (SERO).

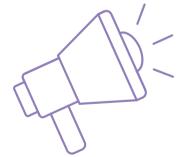
The SERO is a quarterly survey amongst the top executives of WEC's National Federation members around the world that looks into the likelihood of regulatory change as well as the potential impact of these changes on the agency work sector.



Presentation of the new regulatory monitoring tools to WEC members (November 2021)

Advocacy Europe

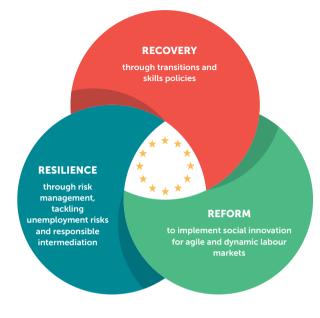
As a sizeable share of regulation affecting labour markets is set by the European Union, the World Employment Confederation-Europe (WEC-Europe) regularly interacts with EU policymakers.



Covid-19: onwards to Recovery, Reform and Resilience

The global public affairs agenda was dominated by the European political discussions on coping with and finding a way out of the Covid-19 crisis. The World Employment Confederation-Europe put forward a Manifesto with concrete recommendations on how the private employment services sector can contribute to "Recovery, Reform, Resilience" from the crisis; and what policies are needed at FU and national levels to make labour markets more agile and inclusive

How to shape the world of work and adapt workforce ecosystems to the "new normal" of the post-Covid era was addressed in the context of the Portuguese Presidency of the Council of the European Union. The World Employment Confederation-Europe and its Portuguese national federation, APESPE, organised a webconference in June to discuss what regulation for the agency work industry would be appropriate to further unlock its contribution to iob creation and better functioning labour markets.





WEC-Europe Manifesto for "Recovery, Reform, Resilience" after the Covid-19 crisis (June 2021)





EU legislation: workers' rights in focus

The European Union came forward with several legislative proposals of importance to the agency work sector in 2021. Both the proposal for a Directive on adequate minimum wages and the proposal for a Directive on improving the working conditions in **platform work** were welcomed in their attempts to improve working conditions and the social protection of workers, but they also raised concerns as to the balance needed with existing regulations and collective agreements at national and sectoral level

The World Employment Confederation-Europe has been active on both topics, getting involved in consultations organised by the European Commission and working together with other European employers' federations to bring constructive recommendations. The sector has notably promoted its experience of setting up innovative schemes through social dialogue.

The World Employment Confederation-Europe also addressed the proposal for a legal framework on Artificial Intelligence. As discussed in a stakeholder event organised by WEC-Europe in April 2021, the challenge is to enable responsible AI for labour market matching while also allowing for business innovation.

To better support its public affairs activities, the World Employment Confederation-Europe also set up a new **Legal Taskforce** to monitor and assess European Court of Justice cases and judgements affecting the private employment services industry.



WEC-Europe webconference on artificial intelligence (May 2021)

Social dialogue: a partner that is needed more than ever

Social dialogue has also been at the forefront of the EU agenda in 2021 with the European Commission launching a consultation on the Review of the FU Sectoral Social Dialogue. In addition to replying to this consultation, the World Employment Confederation-Europe co-signed a ioint statement with the European Services' social partners, highlighting the all-important role of social partners in building a resilient Europe and reiterating the commitment to a continued strengthening of sectoral social dialogue in the services industry. Jointly with those organisations, the World Employment ConfederationEurope also met with the EU Commissioner for Jobs and Social Rights, Nicolas Schmit, to discuss the pivotal role of sectoral social dialogue.

The World Employment Confederation-Europe also launched the 2021-2023 joint work programme with the sector's trade union in the context of the FU Sectoral Social Dialogue for the Temporary Agency Work sector. Under the theme of 'Partners', the cooperation will provide the basis for mutual learning and bestpractice exchange, while at the same time addressing the key EU employment and social affairs priorities.

Thought leadership

Through the wide range of HR services provided by its members, the World Employment **Confederation (WEC)** is uniquely placed to observe the structural shifts taking place in the world of work. Capitalising on this expertise, WEC aims to share these new realities and improve understanding of the benefits of new workforce solutions.

Media Contributions

Supporting workers and businesses post-pandemic

In 2021 the World Employment Confederation shared its expertise on the solutions that would support both workers and businesses in a postpandemic world through diverse media contributions and speaking opportunities. In a significantly changed world of work, new strategies must be found to recruit talent, adapt workplaces and management methods, navigate transitions, etc.

The fact that the private employment services sector can deliver such solutions was outlined by the World Employment Confederation at several events including: FurActiv's webconference "The Future of Work in the EU" (July), the International Conference on Nation Building (September) and ADAPT's annual conference on "Work and its value" (November). The business community was particularly interested to hear about solutions to make their talent strategies "future-ready" (LEARNTech Asia conference. November) and to enable job-to-job transitions (BusinessEurope webinar, October).



WEC President Bettina Schaller (left) at the ADAPT annual conference (November 2021)



WEC Board member Peter Hamilton was in the line-up of speakers for the LEARNTech Asia conference (November 2021)



The World Employment Confederation also continued to argue for fair and ethical recruitment standards - a topic discussed at the Global Forum on Responsible Recruitment in April - taking part in events organised by key stakeholders including the International Training Centre of the International Labour Organisation and the European Network of Public Employment Services.

The increasing role of technology, the rise of hybrid workplaces and the role of career guidance were some of the other topics addressed by the World Employment Confederation in its various contributions to HR, European and global media.

EURACTIV

Why skilling policies should embrace career guidance to futureproof employability

Supporters

WORLD EMPLOYMENT CONFEDERATION

> for more inclusive and r markets in the contex





Corverens & Price 🗖 O 🚺 💌 📷

As the EU Member Stater' recovery plans feature a decent share of spending towards adult learning and skills, the career management sector believes that policymakers still miss our on one crucial ingredient to make balour markets transitions truly effective and sustainable. *Munelle Antile is Charperson of the Career Management Network of the World Employment*.

Confederation: Michael Preytag is Public Affairs Manager for the World Employment Confederati Europe

In the dent introducing state of laboration interests, every starting and uniterest structure provide and uniterest many full property countries, as secondimis receiver from the impacts of the Costol 19 publication. In this the problem is becoming even more acute in complex and fast evolving laborar markets and will workers increasingly quitting or indexing to do so. Furthermolity, uniteresting and employability however tables more than a first training desard. It is a combination of skills, mindeet and an alignment will job market demands.

So, what is the secret for people to figure out their next best move, for employers to retain their

Some of the contributions by the World Employment Confederation in media in 2021







Profiling the industry

The World Employment Confederation's (WEC) advocacy and thought-leadership activities are underpinned by robust data collection and research activities. These contribute to a better understanding of the reality of the private employment services sector and its positive contribution to labour markets. Regular communication through media, publications and events further builds the reputation of WEC as a trusted partner in the world of work.



Steering a labour market in transformation

On 6-8 September, the World Employment Conference 2021 brought together more than 300 participants from across the world to discuss the developments transforming labour markets and reflect collectively on the solutions needed to steer this transformation in a sustainable direction. Being held for the first time as an online event, the conference nevertheless managed to engage participants and create interactions with the different speakers and sponsors involved.







The World Employment Conference 2021 was streamed live from Madrid, with speakers joining onsite and online to discuss how to steer a labour market in transformation. (September 2021)



Building bridges within the HR services community

The World Employment Confederation constantly seeks to exchange views with other HR services organisations, such as ECSSA (the European Confederation of Search & Selection Associations). Through its Career Management Network, the World **Employment Confederation** cooperated with ACF International (the Association of Career Firms International) to conduct joint research on the evolution of the career transition services market.



CH3 -SUFFORTING TRANSITIONS

Reskilling during a crisis



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Demonstrating the industry's positive contribution

In its Social Impact Report 2021, one of its milestone annual publications, the World Employment Confederation demonstrated. through workers' stories and data collected from its members, the positive contribution that the private employment services sector across the world makes to building more resilient and inclusive labour markets. In the context of the Covid-19 pandemic, the sector takes its role in driving social innovation and social purpose a step further.

This role was also showcased in a research project conducted by ADAPT, the international network of researchers and academic scholars in the field of Labour Law and Industrial Relations Through interviews with international stakeholders from global and European institutions, employers' organisations, trade unions and academia, the project outlined a clear contribution from the private employment agencies to building more resilient labour markets

Through data and workers' stories, the World Employment Confederation's Social Impact Report 2021 demonstrates how the private employment services sector has helped workers, notably by supporting transitions and fostering inclusiveness.

Quality Standards & Capacity Building

The World Employment Confederation (WEC) works to constantly increase the professionalism of the employment industry through capacity building activities and direct support to members.





Covid-19 guidelines for ensuring the health & safety of agency workers

In March 2021, the World Employment Confederation adopted guidelines relating to occupational health δ safety protocols to be applied to agency workers in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic. The overall objective was to ensure that the same **equal standards and practices** were applied to agency work personnel as are applied to user companies' personnel. The guidelines were further updated in November to consider the new measures that had been adopted in the meantime across the world to further mitigate the spread of the pandemic.



The upside of online events

Despite the still strict travel restrictions due to the pandemic, the World **Employment Confederation** continued to be present for its members. Indeed. the online format widely embraced by members enabled WEC's leadership to join even more members' events. In 2021. representatives of the World **Employment Confederation** could join meetings in Canada, Columbia, Germany, India, Poland, Sweden and the United Kinadom.

Fostering WEC Latin America

National Federation members of the World **Employment Confederation** in Latin America (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia and Peru) strengthened their cooperation in 2021 to reinforce the capacity of their regional organisation. With the support of the WEC Head Office and leadership. WEC Latin America worked on improving its governance structure and reinforcing its communication and institutional relations activities

Best Practice & Networking





The World Employment Confederation (WEC) offers multiple opportunities for its members to exchange best practice and share their experience in handling international employment trends. Sharing best practice not only allows developing federations to function more effectively, it also strengthens the ties between WEC members and reinforces WEC's voice.

Expanding the offer

Seizing the opportunities presented by online meetings, the World Employment Confederation organised several **events** for its membership in 2021. From learning and development for national federations to information on regulation and best practice sharing sessions, each month WEC members were able to find a topic of interest to help grow their activities.

WEC Awards 2021 Best of WEC

For the third year running, the World Employment Confederation shone a light on those national federations which made a particular contribution to advancing the private employment services industry and enhancing labour markets. In 2021, NHO SH (Norway) took home the 'Outstanding Advocacy' Award, Agest (Chile) won in the 'Rising Federation' category, and Assolavoro (Italy) received the 'Leadership in Social Innovation' Award

In 2021, the World Employment Confederation launched a new monthly **newsletter** for its members to better identity all the opportunities to engage with WEC activities. Content includes updates on latest publications, event recaps, reminders of upcoming meetings, news on partnerships, press coverage and upcoming surveys.



Governance

WEC Global

The General Assembly, Board, and standing committees are the main governance bodies of the World Employment Confederation (WFC).

The General Assembly is the highest decision-making body, in which each WEC Member is represented and has the right to vote

The Board oversees the day-today operations and activities, and the management of the Confederation. Its composition aims to strike a balance in reflecting the diversity of WEC membership.

Three standing committees allow members to meet on a regular basis:

- The Corporate Members Committee (CMC)
- The National Federations Committee (NFC)
- The Economic Affairs Committee (corporates & federations)

WEC Global Board 2021

Charles

Cameron



President Bettina Schaller

Group



John Healy



Treasurer Ann Cattelain



Group Menno Bart Bart van Kempen



Jan Denys





RGF Staffing Vacant

Gi Group Bonardo

18 WEC Activity Report 2021



Chair Economic Affairs Committee Even Hagelien



Delfosse

Chair Corporate Members Committee



North America Richard Wahlquist



Europe Sonja van



Lohit Bahtia



North East Asia







Chair National Federations Committee







Chevalier



Board Member Osterfeld



(BAP)



Board Member Greg Chen (ABADI)

WEC-Europe

The World Employment Confederation-Europe has the Governing Body, Executive Committee, and standing committees as its main governance bodies. The two standing committees of WEC-Europe are the Public Affairs Committee and the EU Sectoral Social Dialogue Committee (SSDC).

In 2021, Herman Nijns, CEO of Randstad Belgium & Luxembourg, was elected as the new President of WEC-Europe. Two other new members also joined the Executive Committee: Menno Bart from the Adecco Group and Agostino Di Maio from the Italian federation Assolavoro.

WEC-Europe Executive Committee 2021





(The Adecco Group) Chair PA Committee



Sonja van Lieshout (Randstad) Chair EU SSDC Committee



Agnieszka Zielinska (Polskie Forum HR) **Executive** Committee Member



Agostino Di Maio (Assolavoro) **Executive Committee Member**

Members of the World Employment Confederation (2021)

National Federations

North America

Canada (CA) - ACSESS Mexico (MX) - AMECH USA (US) - ASA

Latin America

Argentina (AR) - FAETT Argentina (AR) - CAPE Brazil (BR) - FENASERHTT Chile (CL) - Agest Colombia (co) - ACOSET Peru (PF) - AFTT

Africa

South Africa (ZA) - APSO

North East Asia

China (CN) - CAEST Japan (JP) - JASSA South Korea (KR) - KOHRSIA

APAC Southern

Australia (Au) / New Zealand (NZ) - RCSA India (IN) - ISF Indonesia (ID) - ABADI Philippines (PH) - PALSCON

Europe

Austria (AT) - ÖPD Belgium (BE) - Federgon Bulgaria (BG) - NECB* Croatia (HR) - HUP Czech Republic (cz) - APPS Denmark (DK) - Dansk Erhverv Estonia (FF) - EPREL Finland (FI) - HPL France (FR) - Prism'emploi Germany (DE) - BAP Greece (GR) - ENIDEA Ireland (IF) - FRF Italy (IT) - Assolavoro

Latvia (LV) - LPDAA Lithuania (T) - LIIA Luxembourg (LU) - FES Netherlands (NL) - ABU Norway (NO) - NHOSH Poland (PL) - Polskie Forum HR Portugal (PT) - APESPE Romania (RO) - AFSRU Russia (RU) - ACHAZ Slovakia (SK) - APAS Slovenia (si) - 7A7

Spain (ES) - ASEMPLEO

Sweden (SE) -Kompetensföretagen Switzerland (сн) - swissstaffing Turkev (TR) - OIBD United Kingdom (UK) - REC

* New member since 2021

Corporate Members





nr randstad





HOUSE OF HR HUMAN RESOURCEEULNESS



WEC Intelligence Resources & Products

Labour Markets



Labour Market Research

Access key global and regional data

- Global Labour Market Fact Sheet
- Global Labour Shortage Statistical Briefing

Stay informed about the latest research on Changing World of Work

• WEC/ADAPT The Future of Work monthly joint newsletter

Follow the latest labour law developments across the world

• WEC-IOE Industrial Relations and Labour Law monthly joint newsletter

Private Employment Services Industry

Market Data

Track the industry's key figures

• Annual Economic Report

Compare national staffing markets

- National Markets Dashboard (full file)*
- National Markets Dashboard (1 pager)*

Follow monthly evolution of agency work markets

 Development of the agency work sector – statistical briefing

Compare staffing and labour market indicators

WEC-SIA European Employment
 Barometer

Learn about worker trends and data

• Social Impact Report

Get more information from the HO

• Tailored datafiles upon request*

Regulatory Environment

Understand the staffing regulatory landscape

Annual Regulatory Report*

Forecast the staffing regulatory evolution

 Quarterly Staffing Executive <u>Regulatory Outlook</u>*

Get on-demand staffing regulatory information

• Tailored regulation briefings upon request*

National Federation

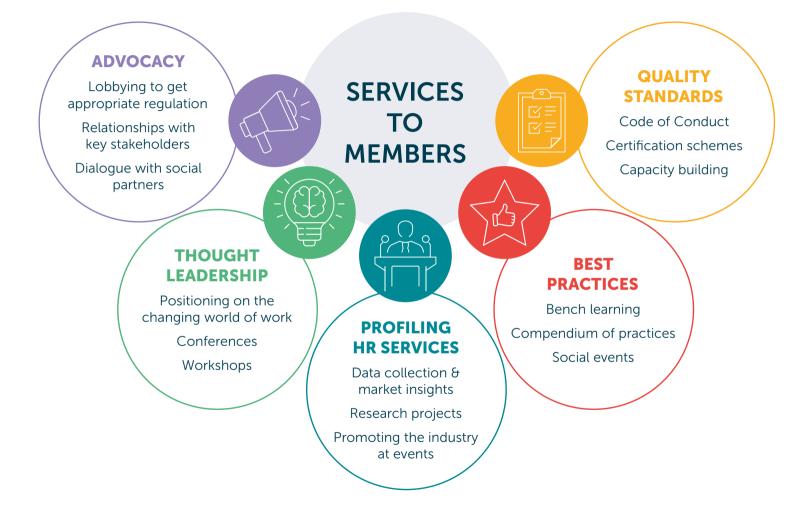
Capacity building & benchmarking

Benchmark your federation to your peer members

• National Federations Report*

Learn how to build up your capacity as a federation

- <u>4 National Federation</u>
 <u>Playbooks</u>*
- Capacity building/ benchmarking/ discussion forums*





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