

diesis

2018

YEAR 

IN REVIEW

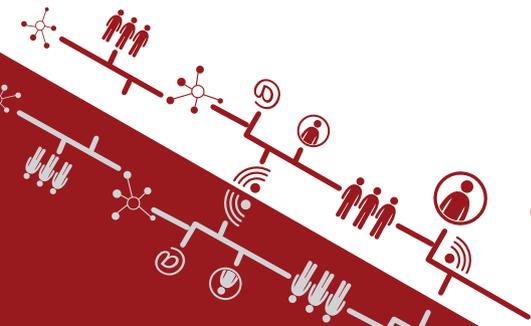


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WHAT'S NEW AT DIESIS

2018 was a splendid year: the network continues to grow and the seeds sown in past years have led to a blooming of new activities.

HISTORY | Social economy enterprises are always at the core of the activity of DIESIS and some “classics” of our work have been consolidated. The launch of the R2G project and the mapping of governance models in social enterprises in 24 European countries; the MedUP project supporting social enterprises and their ecosystems in the Mediterranean region, targeting 6 MENA (Middle Eastern and North African) countries; and the organisation of important meetings and events and participation in many others are great achievements for us.

Moreover, our surveys of the presence of social economy enterprises in emerging sectors such as sustainable food, cultural and creative industries, social and responsible tourism and migrant entrepreneurship have widened and deepened our knowledge base.

Personal and Household Services are a classic sector in which the social economy plays a relevant role as an employer and a service provider: we keep on promoting our members’ experience in it and facilitating their access to new funding and networking opportunities.

Activities tackling gender issues such as gender stereotypes in education and the workplace and gender-based violence were also very lively and important.

GEOGRAPHY | The great news is that the network has expanded, again and again. This year there has been a focus on South East Europe. Our new members are bringing in lots of fresh energy and new opportunities. The network is also widening its international scope with support projects in the MENA region bridging people and ecosystems, and enlarging the social economy community.

WHAT'S NEXT | Important new challenges for DIESIS and social economy enterprises are on the agenda for 2019: Blockchain and Distributed Ledger Technologies (DLT) have many similarities with the underlying principles of cooperatives and the social economy. The aim in 2019 is to bring social economy enterprises and related stakeholders closer to blockchain technology as a possible tool for their development. Moreover we will investigate the impact blockchain, digitisation and platform cooperativism will have on the labour market, innovation and the creation of new market opportunities.

New research and exchange projects will be launched early in 2019.

KEY FIGURES 2018



22

MEETINGS WITH THE EU INSTITUTIONS



83

MEETINGS ATTENDED



14

PROJECTS APPROVED IN 2018



2.300+ hours

DEVELOPMENT OF NEW PROJECTS



MEETINGS ORGANISED

61

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS

604



FROM **20** COUNTRIES



19

EU FUNDED PROJECTS



25 MEMBER ORGANISATIONS

from

14 COUNTRIES



41 PUBLICATIONS



1300+ PAGES

+4 NEW MEMBERS

75.000+ SOCIAL ECONOMY ENTREPRISES

+ 43% FOLLOWERS 

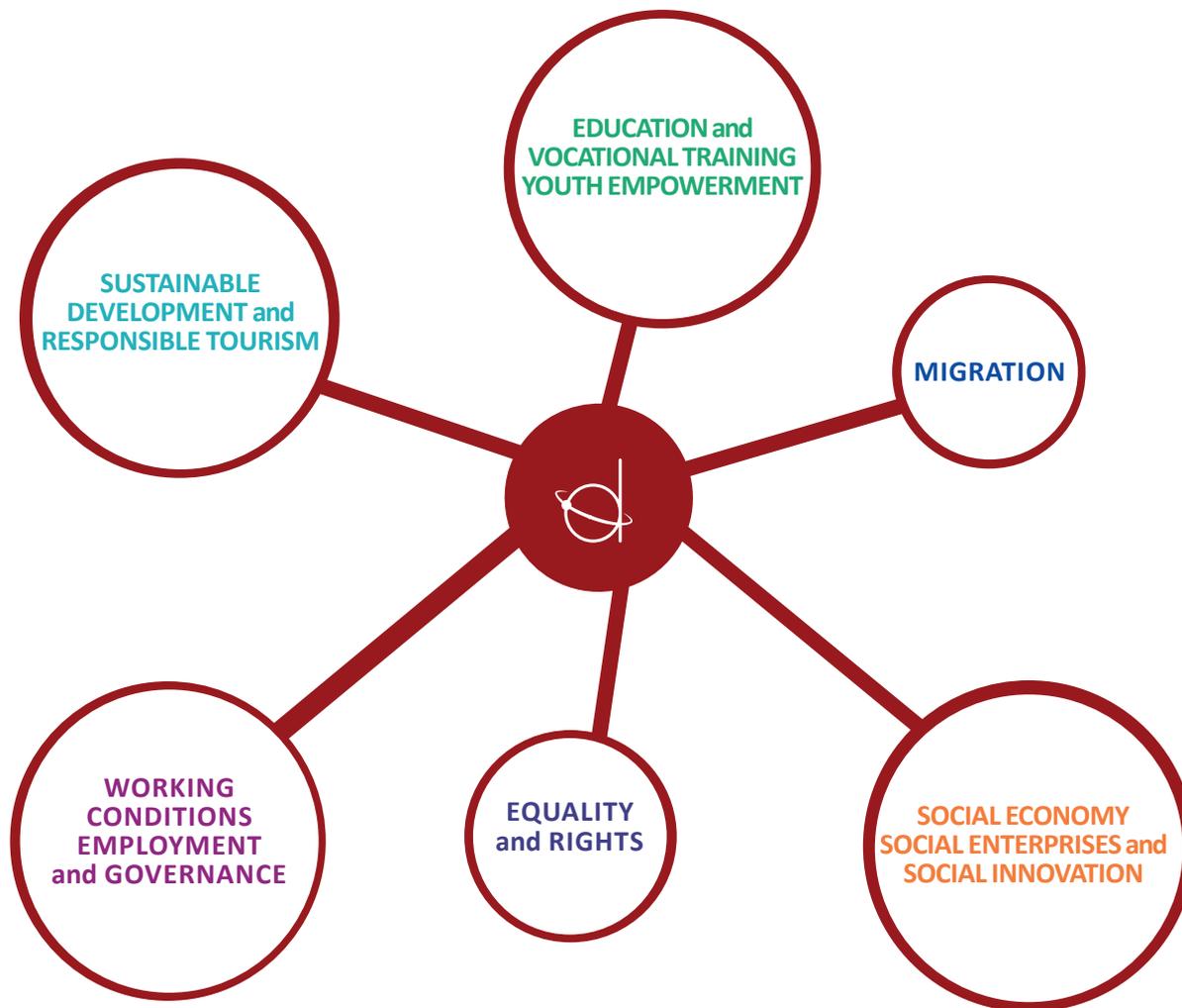
+ 34% FOLLOWERS 

IN 11 LANGUAGES

IT - FR - EN - ES
SL - EL - PL - LT - HR
BG - DE

1.200.000+ EMPLOYEES

OUR WORK IN 2018



SOCIAL ECONOMY SOCIAL ENTERPRISES and SOCIAL INNOVATION



The **SOCIAL ECONOMY, SOCIAL ENTERPRISES and SOCIAL INNOVATION** are at the core of DIESIS's mission and activities. DIESIS is an organisation created by the social economy to promote the development of the social economy at European level. It is a cooperative with a social aim under Belgian law and acts in accordance with cooperative values and principles. As shown by the list of projects and activities carried out, DIESIS supports the development of the social economy and social enterprises all over Europe. DIESIS works as a network using the experience and skills of its members and partners in all the activities it carries out. Social economy and social innovation are closely linked. They both aim to meet unsatisfied social needs and to respond to social challenges. DIESIS is working to emphasise that the social economy is a vehicle and agent of social innovation (though not the only one), while social innovation very often originates inside the social economy sector.



Promoting social entrepreneurship in the Mediterranean Region

MEDUP! PROMOTING SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION (2018-2022)

The project aims to increase economic inclusiveness and employment by supporting social enterprises in Middle Eastern and North African (MENA) countries such as Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt, Lebanon, Jordan and the Occupied Palestinian Territories. The four-year project is co-financed by EuropeAid and will advocate appropriate policies on social entrepreneurship, public-private dialogue, exchanges of practices and high-quality services for social enterprises.

EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (2015-2019)

DIESIS has been appointed as the expert of the Social Economy Thematic Network, acting in the framework of ESF transnational cooperation activities. The network, composed of ESF Managing Authorities along with national and European stakeholders, will operate until 2019 to enable mutual learning among countries and stakeholders and facilitate coordinated ESF calls for proposals. In 2018 the network organised a seminar on “Circular economy as an opportunity for social enterprises – what role for ESF support?” (Brussels, March 2018), a seminar on “Access to public procurement for social enterprises and the role that can be played by the ESF” (October 2018) and participated in the EU Conference on “Cooperation between social economy enterprises and traditional businesses” (Brussels, July 2018).



Investing in people
European Social Fund

<http://socialeconomy.pl/>
<https://ec.europa.eu/esf/transnationality/forums/social-economy>



BSI

BUYING FOR SOCIAL IMPACT (2018-2019)

Buying for Social Impact (BSI) is a project commissioned by EASME and DG GROW to promote the use of social considerations in public procurement procedures. The project covers 15 Member States: Croatia, the Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Ireland, Latvia, the Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Sweden.

The work of BSI is divided into two strands:

- Knowledge development through desk research on how the new public procurement directive has been transposed at national level, identification of good practices showcasing how the social aspects of the directive can be implemented in practice, and a mapping of the capacity of social economy enterprises to access markets.
- Knowledge sharing and exchange through the organisation of awareness raising and training events in the 15 EU countries.

The BSI team consists of a network of national public procurement and social economy experts in the above-mentioned countries, coordinated by a consortium led by AEIDL in partnership with REVES, DIESIS, Social Economy Europe (SEE) and ENSIE.

DIESIS is part of the central content team and is in charge of the collection of good practices and the coordination of activities in Poland, Croatia, the Czech Republic and Slovakia.



ANNUAL CONVENTION FOR INCLUSIVE GROWTH 2018

Each year the Annual Convention for Inclusive Growth, organised by DG EMPL, provides the opportunity to reflect collectively on how to build a stronger Social Europe, by fighting poverty, increasing employment, and strengthening social cohesion and inclusion for all. In 2018 the convention focused on the implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights.

At the event, held on 27 April 2018 in Brussels, DIESIS chaired a session of the workshop on ***Social economy and social enterprises: a boost for the implementation of the Pillar?***

GECES EC EXPERT GROUP ON SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP (2015-2018)

DIESIS is a member of GECES, the European Commission Expert Group on Social Entrepreneurship, which the Commission consults on the development, setting up and implementation of all the actions mentioned in the Social Business Initiative and the further development of social entrepreneurship and social economy. Dorotea Daniele was the rapporteur of the working group on “Improving the legal environment” and cowrote the GECES report “Social enterprises and the social economy going forward – A call for action from the Commission Expert Group on Social Entrepreneurship (GECES)”, published by the Commission in October 2016.

SIC- SOCIAL INNOVATION COMMUNITY (2016-2019)



SOCIAL INNOVATION COMMUNITY

SIC is a Horizon 2020-funded project, run by a consortium of 12 leading social innovation organisations across Europe. SIC is strengthening, connecting and growing existing social innovation communities – including public sector innovation, digital social innovation, intermediaries, social economy actors and more. It is improving our collective capacity to address some of the greatest challenges we face today. DIESIS takes part in the SIC Social Economy Network.

<https://www.siceurope.eu/>

HIGH-LEVEL CONFERENCE “SOCIAL ECONOMY – FOR AN ECONOMICALLY SUSTAINABLE AND SOCIALLY INCLUSIVE EU”

DIESIS moderated the panel on “Social economy and territorial development” at this conference, which was organised by the Bulgarian Presidency of the EU in Sofia on 16-17 April 2018.

RIGHTS TO GROW

**FOSTERING
INFORMATION
CONSULTATION
PARTICIPATION
RIGHTS
TO HELP
SOCIAL
ENTERPRISES
GROW
(2018-2019)**

R2G is a two-year project led by DIESIS and funded by DG EMPL under the budget line “Information, consultation and participation of representatives of undertakings”.

The project will map the governance models of social enterprises across Europe, identifying and analysing good practices and drafting policy recommendations for EU, national and local institutions and stakeholders in order to foster information and consultation rights for employees of social enterprises in Europe.

The action focuses on social enterprises providing social services, work integration opportunities for disadvantaged and disabled persons (WISEs) and also social enterprises involved in public-social partnerships. It covers a large number of countries thanks to a broad partnership including European-level organisations on both the workers’ and the employers’ sides (DIESIS, CECOP, ENSIE, ETUC and SEE) as well as national organisations (SEUK, RISE, COCETA, ACT GRUPA, Legacoopsociali, CGM, AVISE, FISE).

<http://r2g.diesis.coop>



MIGRATION



A theme where DIESIS is very active is **THE INTEGRATION OF THIRD COUNTRY NATIONALS**. Thanks to its involvement in a series of important European projects and initiatives, DIESIS has been able to bring the voice of social economy/entrepreneurship to bear at the European level and become an active player on this topic, which represents both a challenge and a great opportunity for the future of the European Union. DIESIS is a founding member of the UnionMigrantNet network and an active member of the European Migration Forum, the civil society dialogue platform on migration, asylum and migrant integration. Together with the members of its network and in partnership with other important European players, DIESIS regularly promotes project initiatives in this field to promote the role of social economy enterprises.

In 2018 several new proposals were presented, and approved!

EUROPEAN MIGRATION FORUM

DIESIS has been selected to take part in the European Migration Forum, the platform for dialogue between civil society and the European institutions on issues relating to migration, asylum and the integration of third-country nationals. It brings together representatives of civil society organisations, local and regional authorities, Member States and EU institutions. The aim of the Forum is to enhance coordination and cooperation between key players involved in the multilevel European governance of migration. The Forum aims to provide more information on the latest policy developments and also to gather information on how European policies are implemented at regional, local and grassroots levels. It should help to better understand the main challenges that civil society organisations and social partners face in the field and to identify ways to better support them in their efforts to address migrants' needs.



On the occasion of the 4th Event of the European Migration Forum DIESIS was appointed as rapporteur of the two workshops that focused on “Tackling discrimination and promoting diversity at the workplace” and “Promoting entrepreneurship among migrants and supporting the social economy”.

EMEN

EUROPEAN MIGRANT ENTREPRENEURSHIP NETWORK (2017-2020)

The EMEN project will develop, share and promote support schemes for individual migrant entrepreneurs and for social and inclusive enterprises benefitting migrants. To achieve this ambitious objective, the first steps performed were the official setting up of three Communities of Practice (CoPs):

- (1) Coaching and mentoring;
- (2) Access to Finance;
- (3) Professionalisation of migrant entrepreneurs' associations and diversity management in chambers of commerce.

Diesis is in charge of the dissemination and networking activities.

These two pillars of the project aim to generate awareness among target groups and disseminate the project's activities and results to a wider circle of interested actors, and to open the project to other networks and consortia and create a broader European network that builds bridges and links to different initiatives.

2018 has been characterised by the definition of the strategies for dissemination and networking, and the setting up of the tools necessary for their implementation. The coming months will be the time for consolidating these achievements, strengthening the relationships and starting to put into practice different methodologies to identify better support schemes for migrant entrepreneurs. More events, inspiring workshops and learning materials will be developed soon.



<http://emen-project.eu/>

LABOUR-INT



LABOUR MARKET INTEGRATION OF MIGRANTS. A MULTI-STAKEHOLDER APPROACH (2016-2018)

Based on a multi-stakeholder approach, this two-year project aims to promote tailored programmes for the labour market integration of third-country nationals and asylum-seekers. Taking into account the needs of the labour market, the project promotes multi-layered integration paths based on six pilot actions in Belgium, Italy and Germany. This action will benefit third-country nationals both in the short and the long term, as they are directly involved in the pilot actions and will be the first beneficiaries of the increased capacity of the project partners to provide assistance for the integration of asylum-seekers and refugees. In this context DIESIS contributes the voice of the social economy and supports dissemination at European level.

<http://www.labour-int.eu/>



UNION MIGRANT NETWORK

UnionMigrantNet is an International network of contact points that provides information and assistance to migrants and would-be migrants. It is promoted and managed by the European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) with the active support of other European networks and organisations. DIESIS is one of its founder members and since its setting up has been very active in contributing the voice and experience of the social economy.

The services provided by UnionMigrantNet contact points aim to promote:

- the collective and individual interests and rights of mobile workers; protect the individual and collective social rights of migrants;
- increase the visibility and accessibility of services and facilities supporting the integration of migrants; encourage trade union membership among the migrant population;
- and encourage migrant social entrepreneurship.

<http://www.unionmigrantnet.eu>

WORKING CONDITIONS EMPLOYMENT and GOVERNANCE



DIESIS is deeply involved in project activities related to **SOCIAL DIALOGUE, EMPLOYEE INVOLVEMENT AND EMPLOYEE FINANCIAL PARTICIPATION.**

Being a member organisation from the social economy, DIESIS is particularly attentive to all aspects of employee participation and corporate governance. Over the years, DIESIS has developed a strong network composed of organisations representing different interests (business, labour, social economy, academia and research, consultancy and advocacy) but that share a common idea: economic democracy can make the European free market a more democratic space. Thanks to its consolidated network and its long-standing relationship with the ETUC, DIESIS is actively promoting projects in the field of employee financial participation and information and consultation rights.



Federation of European
SOCIAL EMPLOYERS

PESSIS+ PROMOTING EMPLOYERS' SOCIAL SERVICES IN SOCIAL DIALOGUE (2017- 2019)

PESSIS+ aims to strengthen the capacity of the Federation of European Social Employers, in view of their participation in European Social Dialogue structures. The project's main activities will include national events in ten EU Member States to engage with relevant national employers, discussions with trade union organisations with a view to setting up the right structures, and research on the state of play of social dialogue structures in social services in the 28 EU Member States. The project is financed by DG EMPL within the budget supporting Social Dialogue. It is coordinated by EASPD with the participation of national and European employers and trade unions.

DIESIS's role is to organise meetings in three countries (Italy, Poland and Slovenia) to present and raise interest in European social dialogue and EU policies involving the major national stakeholders.

LUCI SUL LAVORO

DIESIS took part in and supported the 2018 edition of the Luci sul Lavoro festival, an important event organised in Montepulciano (Italy) by EIDOS with the support of the Italian Ministry of Labour, with the participation of the European Commission and major European and national employer and trade union representatives. The 2018 event focused on welfare and on the integration of third country nationals into the labour market.



<http://www.lucisullavoro.org/>

ElforPHS

EMPLOYEE INVOLVEMENT IN THE PERSONAL AND HOUSEHOLD SERVICES SECTOR (2016-2018)

The ElforPHS project aimed to make employers and workers in the Personal Care and Household Services (PHS) sector at national and European levels more aware of workers' rights to Information, Consultation and Participation (ICP), and to boost business models and governance approaches that ensure the effective involvement of employees in the management of PHS enterprises. The ICP rights of PHS workers were enhanced through the analysis of the situation in five EU countries (Italy, Spain, France, Greece, and Slovenia), and also through the identification of relevant practices, with the ultimate goal of providing suggestions for improvement.

The project was co-financed by DG EMPL and coordinated by Legacoopsociali with the active support of DIESIS and the involvement of various members

of the network, DIESIS was responsible for part of the research and for dissemination at European level and organised the workshop in Madrid and the final conference in Brussels.

<https://eiforphs.eu/en/>





ACDC ADULT COGNITIVE DECLINE CONSCIOUSNESS (2017-2020)

ACDC is an Erasmus+ project that aims to test an innovative approach to extend the offer of transversal competences in a lifelong perspective, in the highly relevant field of health literacy for adults, with a specific focus on preventing cognitive decline. Hence, the project is innovative on two levels. Primarily, the partnership wants to bring an essential kind of learning content – health literacy – to the widest possible audience and to this end we have mobilised experienced partners in order to activate effective channels of training delivery. The second area of innovation of the ACDC project is high-quality learning, via an interactive gaming tool. This will be a smart, easy-access and pragmatic open edutainment instrument, designed to be understood and efficacious for the widest range of beneficiaries. It will undergo a painstaking scientific validation. Here DIESIS is responsible for testing the methodology and coordinating dissemination at European level.

PROEFP NETWORK

ProEFP is a European network promoting economic democracy in Europe. It enjoys the support of a number of organisations from business, trade unions, advocacy and research, which share a common idea: employee financial participation and employee ownership can make the European free market a more democratic space. ProEFP studies, promotes and encourages all forms of employee financial participation and a broader diffusion of share/equity ownership among employees.

ProEFP started in 2010 on the initiative of a number of organisations that led to the Information and Communication Project: Promoting Employee Financial Participation in the EU27, co-financed by the European Commission. Today ProEFP is a Europe-wide network whose aims are:

- To promote economic democracy and in particular employee involvement, financial participation and employee share/equity ownership;
- To encourage partnerships and common projects among its members;
- To spread the work and activities of its members to a larger public;
- To share experiences and promote best practices of employee financial participation and employee share/equity ownership.

DIESIS is one of the founding members and is active in promoting the network and its activities.

<http://www.proefp.eu/>



EDUCATION and VOCATIONAL TRAINING YOUTH EMPOWERMENT



EDUCATION AND TRAINING are vital in **EMPOWERING PEOPLE**, building professionalism and creating employment. DIESIS is contributing its expertise in **SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP** to several Erasmus+ projects. The development of skills for social entrepreneurship through training and education is an important way to empower people and raise awareness of the benefits and added value of the social economy to the community. Since young people have little opportunity to improve their position in society through conventional employment, entrepreneurship represents an option for overcoming these hurdles and may help them to accomplish a number of goals, such as increased self-worth and satisfaction through overcoming obstacles. Social entrepreneurship constitutes a flourishing field of work, which not only facilitates entering into the labour market, but also contributes to the community's well-being by solving pressing social issues and generating a positive return to society. Social entrepreneurship also provides viable and sustainable alternatives to the ever-widening gap between the demand and supply of services, especially for vulnerable groups (children, elderly, disabled people etc.). DIESIS also promotes as a horizontal priority "open and innovative practices in a digital era", by developing a modern, integrated and holistic methodology based on e-learning and non-formal education, tailor-made to the needs of young prospective social entrepreneurs.



ELASTIC EXCHANGE AND LEARNING FOR ADULT SOCIAL WORKERS: TRAINING ICT COMPETENCES (2017-2019)

The ELASTIC project answers the increasing need for digital skills among professionals working in the education and social inclusion of extremely vulnerable adults (e.g. homeless, migrants, asylum seekers and refugees). The project plans an exchange of experiences and practices among Italy, Poland, Czech Republic, Belgium and Spain. Three training events are scheduled, each focusing on a different aspect of ITC tools and how to apply them. During each meeting a study visit to the hosting organisation is also arranged. The project is led by Open Group Soc. Coop. and DIESIS is supporting the partnership by evaluating and monitoring its activities.

BEEUROPE – MA IN EUROPEAN PROJECT MANAGEMENT

DIESIS has been involved in the training activities organised in the context of the MA in European Project Management – Opportunities and tools for working and innovating in the Third Sector organised by Triulza Foundation and Progetto Innovo. The master's degree is one of the main initiatives promoted within the BEEurope: Bet on European Energies project coordinated by Triulza Foundation in partnership with Cariplo Foundation. Its aim is to support local social economy organisations by providing them with skills to participate in European calls for proposals, by developing effective partnerships and building the most innovative social projects capable of responding to new and growing social challenges.



Eu3leader

DEVELOPING ENTREPRENEURIAL THIRD SECTOR LEADERS ACROSS EUROPE (2016- 2019)

Eu3leader is an Erasmus+ project aiming to strengthen leadership and entrepreneurial capacities so that third sector organisations are better able to drive positive change in tomorrow's Europe. The project has developed a framework including key entrepreneurial competences for third sector leaders.

The project is led by the Euclid Network (UK) and involves partners of different kinds, from SMEs to universities, in Austria, Belgium, Croatia and Spain. DIESIS is involved as an expert in European tools in education and training to support the development of the set of competences and the training course related to the ECVET system. DIESIS is bringing the social entrepreneurship model and including skills and competences from the sector in the training.

Eu3leader is mainly addressed to third sector managers and contributes considerably to the European third sector, social innovation and entrepreneurial competence policy and research base.



The EU3Leader partners decided to use the EntreComp framework as a tool to understand the nature of each competence in order to better define what is needed to increase the entrepreneurial skills and competence of third sector leaders. Within the EntreComp, entrepreneurship is defined as both an individual competence and a collective one. This definition is very much appropriate for third sector organisations, where management is often intended to be collective and participatory.



C2E - CARE TO ENTREPRENEURSHIP (2018-2020)

Care to Entrepreneurship (C2E) as a youth-led transnational project whose aim is to develop, test and implement innovative practices in a much neglected area in the field of youth.

Social entrepreneurial competences, such as business and strategic planning with a social dimension, are the main pillar of the capacity building course curriculum to be developed for the young potential entrepreneurs of C2E. In particular, C2E wants to:

- construct new training curricula and courses (online and face-to-face) for young carers that will allow them to develop the necessary skills, knowledge and competences to become social entrepreneurs;
- test and implement these materials in the UK, Greece, Italy, Romania and Belgium, and use the comparative learning to inform EU-wide practices and policies;
- develop a youth-led evidence base for the construction of the project's training and educational tools.

Here DIESIS is responsible for the development and testing of the training curricula for young carers and professionals working in the care sector.

<https://www.c2eproject.org/>

PROMYSE PROMOTING YOUTH SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP (2017-2019)



The PROMYSE project promotes social entrepreneurship in the health and social care sectors as an alternative pathway to youth employment, by developing the social entrepreneurship and business skills of unemployed young people and by raising awareness of the benefits and added value of social enterprises. This two-year project, led by the IARS International Institute, develops a specific training course after an accurate analysis of three factors: the training already offered in the countries involved (UK, Greece, Latvia, Italy and Belgium); the expectations of young people trained in health and social care; and the needs of experienced social entrepreneurs.

The main result of PROMYSE will be the increased capacity of young prospective social entrepreneurs to successfully engage in social entrepreneurship with an emphasis on those with fewer opportunities.

DIESIS, specialised in social entrepreneurship, supports the definition of the values of social enterprises as well as the specific educational needs.

<https://www.promyse.eu/>



ICC-VET

IMPROVING COMPETENCIES AND COMPETITIVENESS IN THE INTERNATIONALISATION PROCESS OF THE FACILITY MANAGEMENT SECTOR THROUGH VOCATIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL TRAINING (2016-2018)

ICC-VET is an ERASMUS+ KA2 project led by CONFESAL that aims to further develop quality VET mechanisms in the Facility Management (FM) sector through the promotion of stronger coherence between different EU and national transparency and recognition tools. In particular, the project aims to test in different European countries a coherent common VET curriculum and a related pilot course for those working in the internationalisation processes in the FM sector, providing them with tools that favour the recognition of their training at international level and offering them opportunities for mobility. In this context DIESIS is responsible for dissemination at European level and for organising the final workshop in Brussels.

<http://www.icc-vet.eu/>

ERASMUS YOUNG ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Each year, DIESIS gives young professionals the opportunity to learn about the social economy by hosting them for a period of 3-6 months, and working together through the EYE programme. Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs is a cross-border exchange programme which gives new and aspiring entrepreneurs the chance to learn from experienced entrepreneurs running small businesses in other participating countries.

Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs

OUR EYE in 2018



STEFAN HOLZHEUSER

Stefan Holzheuser joined DIESIS in 2018 as a participant in the Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs programme, initiated by the European Union. During his time at DIESIS he will have the opportunity to acquire new skills and knowledge about the working methods of small and medium enterprises. Also, he will be involved in projects, mainly about migration. In 2014, he began to study economics and business administration at the Goethe University of Frankfurt am Main. Three years later, he finished his undergraduate studies with a Bachelor of Science. In 2018, he graduated from the Autonomous University of Barcelona with a master's degree in European Integration. His working languages are English, Spanish and German.

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EQUALITY and RIGHTS



GENDER EQUALITY is a crucial element in each dimension of social and economic life.

The European Pillar of Social Rights, officially proclaimed in 2017, aims to deliver “new and more effective rights for citizens”, based upon 20 main principles. Four of these 20 principle concern both employment involvement and gender equality. In fact principles 2 and 3 are about gender equality and equal opportunities, principle 8 is about social dialogue and involvement of workers, and principle 9 is about work-life balance.

Social economy and social enterprises represent a positive environment for improving, decentralising and creating services facilitating the access of women and men to the labour market.

Collaborative work, social economy and social entrepreneurship could be promoted both as models for tackling inequality and as models for greater social inclusion and cohesion. These practices have proven to be important in nurturing solidarity, participation and activism, and strongly contributing to the inclusion of various marginalised groups into the labour market, as well as to the greater development and cohesion of less developed regions.

In recent decades, women’s presence in the social economy has increased continuously.

Indeed, the democratic cooperative structure, the possibility to have flexible working arrangements (reduced working hours, flexible working hours and flexibility in place of work) and access to specific services (such as childcare), enables them to work and allows them to be very present at work.

The promotion of gender equality and equal opportunities has been an important topic for DIESIS since the beginning, guaranteeing a gender balance both at organisational level and within the activities promoted.



GET UP

**GENDER EQUALITY
TRAINING
TO OVERCOME
UNFAIR
DISCRIMINATION
PRACTICES
IN EDUCATION AND
LABOUR MARKET
(2016-2018)**

Gender roles continue to influence crucial individual decisions: on education, on career paths, on working arrangements, on family and on fertility.

GET UP concentrates its efforts on improving the competences of key actors in transition phases. In addition, it will work on integrating skills and competences of HR managers and employers so as to promote and ensure gender equality at the workplace. The project's main priority is to address the stereotyping of educational and career choices and to promote gender equality in education, training, career guidance and at the workplace. To respond to this priority a multi-stakeholder partnership, made up of VET providers, trade unions, employers and social economy representatives as well as civil society associations, defined a European Minimum Standard of Competences on Gender Equality (EMSC) for those responsible for human resources at the workplace (directors, employers and trade unions), and career guidance tools for professionals and teachers. A training course on gender equality based on the EMSC has been developed and is available online. It aims to develop qualified professionals able to concretely improve their performances, practising gender equality as key professional competence and not only as an ethical issue. Moreover in order to sensitise young people and the general public to the topic, a serious game and billboard campaign have been realised in all the countries involved (Belgium, Bulgaria, France, Italy, Latvia, Malta, Poland, Spain).

<http://www.getupproject.eu/>

IMPROVING WORK-LIFE BALANCE IN EUROPE THROUGH ENABLING SOCIAL SERVICES: FROM SERVICE PROVISION TO DECENT POLICIES

RESEARCH CONTRACTED BY SOCIAL SERVICES EUROPE

This project researched the literature in order to analyse the correlation between social service provision and work-life balance, including the employment consequences for informal and family carers – who are mainly women. It also included an analysis of ten case studies which show that investing in high-quality, accessible and affordable services is one essential factor that improves the work-life balance of family and informal carers. The study closes with a set of recommendations addressed to EU and national policy-makers, as well as to care service providers.

CEASE COMPANIES IN EUROPE ASSOCIATED TO END GENDER BASED VIOLENCE (2017-2019)

Domestic violence against women is a violation of human rights, which remains underestimated and under-tackled. The CEASE project, co-funded by the Rights, Equality and Citizenship programme of the European Commission and managed by FACE IN France, CSR Hellas in Greece and Pour la Solidarité and DIESIS in Belgium, aims to create an additional front line in the battle against violence, by integrating a new actor in this fight: companies. In Europe, 1 in 3 women has experienced physical or sexual violence, most of them by a partner or ex-partner. This means that every employer has been, is or will be in contact with an employee facing violence, whether it happens at work or in private. An action kit including training curricula for companies and information and sensitisation materials will be produced as well as a European Corporate Network (ECN). DIESIS supports the creation of the ECN by involving social economy enterprises and disseminating the materials elaborated among its members.



<https://cease-project.eu/>

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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT and RESPONSIBLE TOURISM



DIESIS's commitment is to promote development-oriented policies that support decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalisation and growth of micro, small and medium social enterprises. The social dimension is one pillar of **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**.

Social economy enterprises can be fundamental actors in this development process. DIESIS is conducting studies on the contribution of the social economy and social economy enterprises to the achievement of the sustainable development goals. In 2018 its investigations focused on digital innovation, cooperative platforms, blockchain solutions, responsible tourism, alternative food systems and creative cultural industries.

SOCIAL ECONOMY ENTERPRISES CONTRIBUTE TO CULTURAL AND CREATIVE INDUSTRIES (2017-2018) - THE SURVEY

The activities of both social enterprises and creative cultural industries (CCIs) have a multiplier effect, which brings cultural, social and economic benefits for the community. They contribute to growth, employment and GDP, and are a vehicle for social and economic cohesion across Europe. We have observed the role of social enterprises involved in the CCIs across Europe. One of the main things that links all good practices analysed is the strong will to deal with issues of their territories through creative and cultural solutions which are able to boost community involvement. The experiences of social economy enterprises (SEEs) operating in CCIs collected represent tools for inclusion and social participation, vehicles of innovation and strategic factors in the development of territories. Like social enterprises, the cultural and creative sectors have a strong territorial dimension, and DIESIS believes that a synergy between social enterprises and creative cultural industries can reap local benefits in cultural, social and economic terms for the community.

TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY IN EUROPE: THE ROLE OF TAXI COOPERATIVES (2018) - THE SURVEY

DIESIS conducted this survey as part of a FONCOOP project for Samarcanda, a large taxi cooperative based in Rome, to examine the concept of sustainable urban mobility. The research asks "What is the role of the taxi in the sustainability of new urban mobility systems?" To answer this question, DIESIS presents some good practices of cooperative taxis which are creating sustainable and accessible urban mobility and promoting "mobility as a service". This research has enabled us to elaborate some observations on the role of cooperative taxis in the implementation of actions toward sustainable urban mobility which is more accessible, greener and safer.



Create Responsible

**WITH
CREATIVE
INCLUSION
TO
DECENT WORK
(2018)**

Create Responsible, cofunded by European Social Fund, aims to establish a social-community cooperative platform (<https://create-responsible.eu/>) using blockchain technologies to support activation, market access and access to services for co-workers/workers who can be employed by the cooperative and who in the phase of market access are most needed in the field of cultural and creative industries.

The project focuses on five main activities:

- (1) establishment of the social-community cooperative;
- (2) creation of the transnational partnership;
- (3) creation of the analysis of the needs of specific target groups, potentials and best practices;
- (4) implementation of workshops, academies and a final conference with the purpose of transfer of knowledge, education and training, mentorship and building capacities and competencies and empowering of the target population;
- (5) development of the tool based on a digital ledger and creative hub to ensure the long-term sustainability of the operation.

The project, in partnership with DIESIS, is led by Social Economy Slovenia Association.

<https://create-responsible.eu/>



T4F**TRAINING FOR SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT (2017-2019)**

Training for Sustainable Food System Development (T4F) is an Erasmus+ project aiming to develop a professional training course based on the development of “green skills” in the food sector, in order to increase the number of jobs linked with an ecological, sustainable and inclusive transition. Its first step is to ensure a basic understanding of the sustainability issues surrounding food to provide the knowledge and skills to manage smart and sustainable growth in the food system. It has been shown that it is possible to create new green jobs by developing green skills or re-skilling food sector professionals towards more “green thinking”. The T4F project is working on a new training course in several European countries (Italy, Belgium and Spain) that will be defined with the support of three European VET providers and experts in sustainability, food and education. DIESIS is supporting the definition of the framework of competences for developing learning programmes for a sustainable food sector.



<http://www.training4food.eu/>

EARTH/OITS-ISTO

DIESIS is a member and co-founder of the European Alliance for Responsible Tourism and Hospitality (EARTH), the first European network created by experts on responsible tourism. The non-profit association is composed of private organisations based in nine European countries (Belgium, England, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Slovenia and Spain). EARTH has one main goal: to transform and unite Europe into “One Europe for Responsible Tourism”. The network brings the principles of sustainability, fairness and solidarity in tourism to life, by promoting the exchange of good practices, experience and knowledge among its members. In the autumn of 2016 EARTH merged with OITS-ISTO, the international organisation supporting social and now also responsible tourism.

The biggest change is to turn OITS-ISTO into the common home of social tourism stakeholders active in social tourism and other forms of tourism, including responsible tourism, solidarity tourism, fair tourism, community tourism – in other words all those forms of tourism that share a vision of the industry that benefits individuals, communities and local areas, contributes to development, promotes respect for cultures and the environment, and serves the public good.

In 2018 DIESIS became a member of the Coordination Committee of OITS-ISTO Europe.



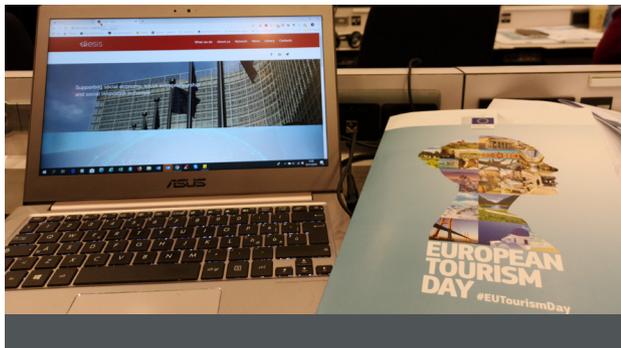
EU TOURISM DAY!

Tourism has become part of the social economy and has significant capacity to generate positive social change for destinations in the European Union and in other parts of the world. Today's travellers are increasingly interested in unique and authentic experiences, a trend that strongly influences the EU tourism market. A growing number of tourists are willing to pay for these special experiences, especially if they benefit local communities. Safety, the economic sustainability of the destination as a result of tourism, as well as social and cultural sustainability and interaction with local people are important to them. We were honoured to be selected as key speakers to provide our views on social economy and social, fair and responsible tourism during European Tourism Day 2018 organised by the European Commission. During the session on "valorising human capital in tourism management" DIESIS discussed how to generate social value through tourism development. How is the social economy generating social value through tourism development? You can find our views in this video!

<http://www.diesis.coop/today-europe-is-celebrating-the-eutourismday/>



WE ARE DIESIS



DIESIS supports the development of the social economy, social entrepreneurship and social innovation in Europe through the implementation of knowledge-based activities, such as training, project design, consultancy and advisory services, technical assistance and research. DIESIS is one of the widest EU networks specialised in supporting social economy and social enterprise development covering 14 countries through major national federations and national support networks associating more than 75,000 organisations and 1.2 million workers.

DIESIS is quoted by the European Parliament as a good practice example of fostering the institutional and social visibility of the social economy.

DIESIS works in partnership with European thematic networks and platforms such as ETUC, REVES, Social Economy Europe and EMES. It is also a member of CECOP.

DIESIS also provides expertise to the ESF Social Economy Thematic Network, which assists Member States on the transnational aspects of the ESF.

DIESIS takes part in the European Migration Forum, organised by the European Commission and the European Economic and Social Committee, a platform for dialogue between civil society and the European institutions on issues relating to migration, asylum and the integration of third-country nationals.



OUR NETWORK

Consortia and federations of social economy enterprises, training, advisory and support organisations for the social economy, social business, social innovation.

DIESIS is one of the widest EU networks specialised in supporting social economy and social enterprise development. Diesis covers 14 EU countries through major national federations and national support networks.



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OUR TEAM



GIANLUCA PASTORELLI

COORDINATION, STRATEGY, VISION, EXPERTISE AND EXPERIENCE.

In charge of the overall coordination and strategy of DIESIS, he drives both the network's animation and new project development.

Over the years he has coordinated and carried out cross-border studies, research and activities to serve the needs and priorities of SMEs, social economy enterprises and cooperatives, in partnership with the main co-operative and social economy organisations all over Europe and at the international level.

While deepening a sound experience in project writing and management he has thereby gained a broad insight into the fields of social innovation, social dialogue and industrial relations, training and entrepreneurship.

Gianluca earned a first degree in political sciences at Bologna University, followed by a master's degree in advanced neurolinguistic programming. Since the mid-90s he has been working as a researcher and consultant for the co-operative and social economy movements at both national and European levels covering a wide range of activities: training, project design, tutoring of innovative start-ups, developer of networks, changemaker.

In 2008 he was among the cofounders of the European Alliance for Responsible Tourism and Hospitality (EARTH) the first European Network created by experts of responsible tourism.

Also a European activist, he is a member of the board of the Jean Monnet Association, a European Association promoting and revitalising the work and thought of Jean Monnet, one of the Founding Fathers of Europe.

His working languages are Italian, French, English and Spanish.

DOROTEA DANIELE

SENIOR EXPERT ON SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND SOCIAL ECONOMY

Dorotea has been working for DIESIS since 2000. She is a senior expert on social entrepreneurship and social economy at European level. In 2015-2018 she was a member of GECES and rapporteur of the working group on “Improving the legal environment for social economy enterprises”. Currently she is the Thematic Expert of the ESF Social Economy transnational network. Previously she was facilitator of the ESF Social Entrepreneurship Network and the network for Better Future of Social Economy. She coordinated the WISE project and she was an expert member of the EQUAL Social Economy Steering Group. Thanks to her close involvement with projects she has acquired a significant understanding of issues emerged within social economy projects at national and transnational level.

Over her whole career she has managed many different kinds of transnational projects in all their different phases (identification of partners and financial resources, drafting of the project, implementation, monitoring and evaluation). Before that, she worked for the co-operative movement in Italy for more than 10 years. She has been in charge of transnational projects and European affairs for Federlavoro e Servizi (umbrella body of workers’ co-operatives) and for CGM (national consortium of social co-operatives).

She is of Italian nationality and took a first degree in political science followed by a master’s degree in international trade. Working languages: Italian, English, French and Spanish.



ALESSIA SEBILLO

**PROJECT MANAGER ON EDUCATION AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING,
YOUTH EMPOWERMENT, GENDER EQUALITY AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES**

Alessia is a project manager specialised in various educational methodologies (formal and non-formal) and in the construction of strategic partnerships. In 2014 she joined DIESIS and she is now managing several projects focusing on education and training, youth empowerment and equal opportunities. Her past work experiences shaped her current management competences, and she has excellent communication skills.

Before joining DIESIS she worked as manager of a VET provider centre for 6 years, following several projects linked to the cooperative movement, social enterprises and NGOs in Italy, to support the social inclusion of disadvantaged people. Furthermore thanks to her experience as a trainer for the Italian Youth Council in the framework of youth activities and human rights education, she designed and implemented actions financed by the Council of Europe and European Youth Foundation all over Europe. In recent years she has also coordinated eLearning training promoting youth empowerment and equal opportunities. She is a successful team player, implementing cooperative work in a multicultural environment. Working languages: Italian, English and French.





FEDERICO CAMPORESI

**PROJECT MANAGER ON SOCIAL ECONOMY,
EMPLOYEE INVOLVEMENT, SOCIAL SERVICES AND MIGRATION**

Federico joined DIESIS in 2011 where he works as a researcher and project manager in the fields of social economy, industrial relations and employee involvement, public procurement, migration and citizen rights. Prior to working at DIESIS he successfully completed an internship at the Legal Service of the European Parliament in Brussels. He also worked for several years as a research assistant at the International Research Centre on European Law of the University of Bologna.

Federico holds an international PhD in EU law from the University of Bologna and the University of Strasbourg and an MA in international law. He graduated with honours in law at the University of Bologna and has always been attracted by the phenomenon of European integration. He has lived in Italy, France, Ireland and Belgium for academic and professional reasons, and speaks Italian, English and French.



ANASTASIA COSTANTINI

COMMUNICATION AND RESEARCH

Anastasia joined DIESIS in 2016. She collaborates with DIESIS as a visual communication designer focused on branding, editorial, print design and promotional campaigns through strategy and creativity. She contributes to research on social economy and social economy enterprises and their role in the implementation of sustainable development goals. From 2007, she worked as a project manager for social innovation and health promotion for vulnerable groups in collaboration with universities, foundations, a local health authority and an e-care department.

She is an expert in using non-formal education methodologies to develop the creativity and interpersonal skills of vulnerable groups. She studied human nutrition at the University of Bologna and focused her interest and research on sustainable development in the field of alternative food systems. In 2014 she conducted a research project in collaboration with the Department of Agro-Food Science and Technologies (DISTAL) at the University of Bologna. She studied drama and performance arts and worked as a performing arts professional for more than 10 years. Her experimentation with cross-forms of art performance often involved her in projects of social inclusion.

Working languages: Italian, English and French.

MATILDE QUIÑOÁ IGLESIAS

JUNIOR PROJECT MANAGER

Matilde joined DIESIS in 2018, after the European Exchange Programme for Young Entrepreneurs experience in 2017 and her first contact in the framework of European projects. She is now involved as part of the team as junior project manager. Previously, she worked in different countries (Spain, Chile and Honduras) developing projects linked to international cooperation, sustainable local development, socio-labour inclusion and migration. She also worked as a legal adviser to several enterprises and NGOs. She took her first degree in law followed by a master's degree in international cooperation and development, and is at present studying for a second degree in sociology. Working languages: Spanish, English, Portuguese and French.

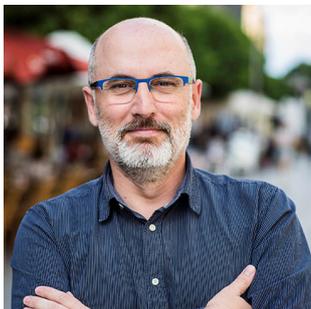
**ELEONORA LAMIO**

INTERN

Eleonora did an internship with DIESIS in 2018, assisting the team in the implementation of its projects by undertaking research, analysis and organisational tasks. She also took part in communication and event management activities. Recently graduated from LUISS Guido Carli University, she holds a bachelor's degree in international relations and a master in public policies, both with honours. Her final dissertations from the bachelor and the master were both selected, and awarded, by prestigious Italian institutions. She is specialised in European public policies with a focus on social affairs and social economy. She has lived abroad for many years, in South and North America, Asia, and several European countries. Therefore not only she is dynamic and open-minded, but she also speaks Italian, French, English and Spanish fluently.

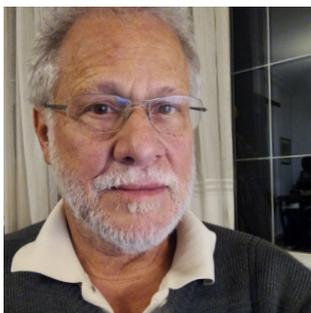


EXTERNAL EXPERTS



SAMUEL BARCO

Samuel is a senior researcher and consultant with more than 15 years' experience in political science research, and extensive international experience in social entrepreneurship development, where he has successfully completed assignments for the most relevant international actors (World Bank, European Social Fund, OECD, Corporación Andina de Fomento, etc.). He holds the Diploma of Advanced Studies in Political Science from UNED University (Spain) and a Master's Degree in International Relations and Communication at the Complutense University (Spain). He has been Senior Consultant and Vice-president of the International Consulting firm "Servicio de Conocimiento Asociado" (Spain) (2006-2012). Previously, from 2002 to 2006, Samuel designed and directed the Department of International Relations of CEPES-Andalusia, the umbrella organisation representing the social economy in Andalusia. He is member of the board of REVES (European Network of Cities and Regions for the Social Economy), and international adviser for several public bodies, both local and international, on social economy, social enterprises and social innovation. He is an international speaker/trainer/facilitator. Working languages: Spanish, English, French and Italian.



APOSTOLOS IOAKIMIDIS

Apostolos is a lawyer who has worked for the last ten years in the European Commission, as a policy officer promoting a favourable legal and administrative environment for cooperatives, mutual insurers, associations and foundations. He is the author of various texts such as the Regulation for a European Cooperative Society, the drafts for the European Mutual and the European Association and various policy texts promoting social enterprises. He also participated in a large number of working groups and conferences prioritising the activities of social enterprises. He started working in the Commission on the accession of Greece to the EU. He served as a civil servant in various positions including in the Competition DG (application of anti-trust rules to inland and maritime transport services, inter-Community dumping cases), the Company Law Unit (directive on mergers of companies limited by shares (plcs), the European Company Statute, and the rights of employees to participate in the decision-making process of their company), the Labour Law Unit (promotion of employees' financial participation through profit sharing, share ownership, stock-options etc.), the ex-DG Enterprise Unit examining draft decisions on State Aid and the Internal Market department dealing with simplifying the regulatory and policy environment for SMEs, the transfer of businesses, the problems of family enterprises, the issue of swift licenses for SMEs etc.

TOBY JOHNSON

Toby started working in the co-operative movement in 1977 at Suma Wholefoods, which has since grown to be the biggest collective workers' co-operative in Britain. In 1979 he founded Leeds Beer Co-operative which ran a real ale shop and later a microbrewery. Following this grounding he became the secretary of ICOM, the UK worker co-ops federation which has now merged with Co-operatives UK. In 1994 he was seconded to the Social Economy Unit of the European Commission for three years, during which he managed two calls for proposals for transnational projects to develop the sector.

In 2002 he became the Commission's social economy expert for the EQUAL programme, where he enjoyed writing analytical case studies, preparing policy recommendations, organising seminars and conferences, and building up Wikipreneurship.eu as an online knowledge base. From 2008 until 2014 this transnational role continued, and Toby supported three mutual learning networks of European Social Fund managing authorities: Better Future of the Social Economy (BFSE) followed by the Social Entrepreneurship Network (SEN) as well as the Community of Practice in Inclusive Entrepreneurship (COPIE). From 2015 until 2018 he led the ESF Transnational Platform managed by AEIDL, which supports transnational working in the ESF by running nine thematic networks and a database to help projects to find partners (see <http://www.transnationality.eu>).

He has also worked as a journalist, and has edited a number of EU magazines such as Euroabstracts as well as numerous conference reports, project profiles and online news articles.

**MONICA TOBALDIN**

Monica's academic background is in linguistics and interpreting. She holds a diploma in linguistic studies and a degree in interpreting at the University of Trieste, Italy.

As a trusted interpreting consultant, Monica compiles teams of interpreters for assignments in Belgium and abroad, and facilitates contact between clients and equipment providers.

She is specialised in social dialogue, trade unions, labour market policies, European projects, economics, politics, governmental organisations, agriculture, environment, fisheries, sustainable development, medicine, tourism, marketing, law and justice, banking and insurance, sport, fashion and the film industry.



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Social Economy Entreprises
Innovation

since 1997

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