Eurofound and ETF work in the fields of living, working and learning

New surveys and research support available to EU neighbouring countries

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Content of today’s presentation

1. Eurofound’s traditional surveys and COVID-19
2. The Living, working and COVID-19 e-survey
3. The e-survey in EU neighbouring countries
4. Future work
Eurofound’s traditional surveys

- **The European Working Conditions Survey**
  (EWCTS 2021)

- **The European Quality of Life Survey**
  - 2003; 2007/8; 2011/12; 2016; 2026

- **The European Company Survey**
  - 2004; 2009; 2013; 2019; 2028
Changing survey landscape

• Eurofound is in the process of future-proofing the surveys with a long-term testing plan to transition to online data-collection.

• The advent of COVID-19 led Eurofound to move the EWCS from CAPI to CATI and to quickly launch a new survey: the Living, Working and Covid-19 (LWC-19) e-survey.
The LWC-19 e-survey: from hoping to get a 1000 cases to….

• Launched in April 2020, over 175,000 cases have been collected across the EU in 5 rounds:
  – April 2020 n= 67,685
  – July 2020 n= 24,143
  – March-April 2021 n= 46,800
  – October-November 2021 (Panel only) n=19,573
  – April-May 2022 n=38,951

Average completion time (in minutes)
...Becoming a very widely used data-source

- The LWC-19 e-survey reports were Eurofound’s most downloaded publications in 2020/2021.
- Over 200 articles have been published to date in academic peer reviewed journals that mention the LWC-19 e-survey.
- 4 papers from Eurofound staff have been published using data from the LWC-19 e-survey in academic peer reviewed journals.
...that provided timely data

Source: Impact of COVID-19 on young people in the EU (europa.eu)
…as well as information where there’s a data-gap

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Source: [People with disabilities and the COVID-19 pandemic: Findings from the](https://euraxess.ec.europa.eu)
... that culminated in ETF joining forces with Eurofound…

- In spring 2022, the 5th round of the e-survey was piloted in 10 EU neighbouring countries
- ETF and EF presented the results in a joint publication
- A new e-survey is currently in the field in the EU27 and 17 neighbouring countries
The methodology of the e-survey

- The sample is drawn through convenience sampling: the link to the survey is shared among stakeholders, then ‘snowballed’ further
- Social media advertising is used for additional coverage
The social media campaign

- Campaign objective is to generate responses to the e-survey across the countries
- Quota targets are set to reach 500 people per country (or more depending on population size), broken down into several categories
- Weekly meetings with the media company to monitor progress and adjust the campaign

- People potentially still outside coverage: elderly with low digital skills, vulnerable populations with no internet access, people who dislike social media, people who distrust the EU/are not interested in social issues
- People using adblockers can only see the survey if shared by friends, cannot be targeted
- Using different types of social media may help as well as different images
The e-survey in the EU neighbouring countries: coverage

• 10 countries in 2022:
  – Albania, Georgia, Jordan, Kosovo*, Lebanon, Moldova, Morocco, North Macedonia, Tunisia and Palestine**

• 17 countries in 2023:
  Albania, Georgia, Jordan, Kosovo*, Lebanon, Moldova, Morocco, North Macedonia, Tunisia, Palestine**, Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Azerbaijan, Ukraine, Armenia, Egypt

* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.
** This designation shall not be construed as recognition of a State of Palestine and is without prejudice to the individual position of the Member States on this issue.
The e-survey in the EU neighbouring countries: focus areas

Focus in 2022:
Experiences and perceptions linked to
• working, including teleworking patterns,
• quality of life, social conditions, poverty,
• work-life balance and well-being;
• education and skills development (in Covid-19/post-Covid 19 context)

Additional topics in 2023:
• Access and quality of work-based learning opportunities (apprenticeships, traineeships, other forms),
• Access to career guidance and counselling,
• Employment and income gaining by using online platforms or apps.

Outreach:
- 18 461 respondents from 10 neighbouring countries
- Higher number of responses from women, middle-aged and older people and tertiary-educated

E-survey ongoing
The e-survey in the EU neighbouring countries: key findings

• Widespread feelings of social exclusion among younger respondents, with many expressing fears about their financial and job situation.

• Health and mental well-being are a major concern across all countries. 75% of those aged between 18 and 44 are at risk of depression in the EU neighbouring countries.

• Women report a higher frequency of tiredness due to performing most of the unpaid household work in their free time.

• Lack of sufficient access to education and training programmes and the low quality of education services reported by most of EU neighbouring countries’ respondents.

• Limited telework: the highest proportions of respondents who never work from home among those whose jobs are entirely teleworkable registered in EU neighbouring countries.
The e-survey in the EU neighbouring countries: youth in focus

- Lower levels of life satisfaction due to limited opportunities, leading to feeling of social exclusion
- Higher risks of depression

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feeling of being excluded from society (%)</th>
<th>EU neighbouring countries</th>
<th>EU-27</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ages 18-29</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ages 30-44</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ages 45-64</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The e-survey in the EU neighbouring countries: key findings

- Strong measures to prevent families from becoming homeless, improved childcare facilities and access to quality health services, including mental care.
- Gender-responsive active labour market measures targeting women and integrated employment, skills and social support to youth.
- Educational and training systems to offer genuine upskilling and reskilling opportunities for job seekers, people with lower skills and inactive.
- Quality employment opportunities and fair social protection systems
Future work: surveys in the IPA countries

- Eurofound will field its 2024 European Working Conditions Survey (EWCS) in: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo*, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia

- Funding has been received from DG NEAR to field the e-survey in 2024 and 2025 in the Western Balkan and Türkiye
Objectives: surveys in the IPA countries

a. **Provision of comparative (trend) data** on working conditions and on quality of life as input to evidence-informed policy decisions in the beneficiary countries, allowing for cross-country comparisons and for monitoring changes overtime;

b. Interpretation of data in national and regional context through **analysis and exchange**. This analysis can range from broad overviews of the data to more in-depth thematic topics;

c. **Supporting** capacity building (notably through tri-partite dialogue);

d. **Inclusion** of future stakeholders in Eurofound’s activities;

e. **Raising awareness** Eurofound’s work within the **very limited** resources available;

f. **Partnership** between Eurofound and ETF for joint implementation, processing and analysis of datasets covering EU-27 and neighbouring countries.
IPA survey outputs

- Analytical studies: 2021 EWCTs and of the 2024 and 2025 e-surveys;
- (Web)publishing based on four outputs;
- Expert meetings for all analytical studies;
- Seminars with stakeholders
Lessons learned from the e-survey

- E-surveys are a useful tool to:
  - respond quickly to a particular situation or development, as has been the case during the COVID-19 pandemic.
  - fill in gaps in data

- The new e-survey tool and the traditional random-probability surveys complement each other to collect timely and policy-relevant data.
- The traditional high-quality random probability population surveys provide point-estimates needed to monitor trends in living and working conditions.
Thank you

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