

EUROPE DIRECT Siena

Information Centre

Newsletter

Anno XI - n. 2 del 28 aprile 2023

www.europedirect.unisi.it

Le principali attività del Centro EUROPE DIRECT Siena

Il Centro EUROPE DIRECT è un progetto europeo - ospitato dall'Università di Siena - che prevede l'attivazione di iniziative al fine di informare, comunicare e formare sui temi dell'Unione europea.

Si tratta di un network di oltre 40 Reti Europe Direct (ED) in tutta Italia, coordinate dalla Commissione Europea; in Toscana si trovano a Siena e Firenze che cooperano attraverso un Coordinamento Toscano.

La EUROPE DIRECT Siena si rivolge a tutti i cittadini e ha l'obiettivo di diffondere sul territorio le informazioni relative alle politiche ed ai programmi dell'Unione nonché dei finanziamenti al fine di soddisfare le esigenze informative e formative su questo tema.

La EUROPE DIRECT Siena si occupa, inoltre, di organizzare, in collaborazione con altre istituzioni e associazioni del territorio, iniziative ed eventi volti a sensibilizzare i cittadini e soprattutto a promuovere il dibattito, favorendo la conoscenza delle tematiche legate all'Unione europea.

Fake news: informare e formare per contrastare la disinformazione in Europa

Non è facile orientarsi in un mondo caratterizzato da una crescente contaminazione delle informazioni, hacking cognitivo e una diffusione sistematica di fake news, cioè di informazioni parzialmente o totalmente false che nella loro diffusione sono aiutate spesso da una precisa intenzione di chi le produce e le diffondono e anche da certe aspettative del pubblico.

“Fake news: informare e formare per contrastare la disinformazione in Europa” è un ciclo di 5 incontri itineranti in programma nel mese di maggio che si propone di contribuire a far comprendere l’importanza del dovere di fornire e del diritto a ricevere un’informazione corretta.

L’iniziativa è realizzata dal Centro Europe Direct Roma Innovazione, operativo presso Formez PA, il Centro Europe Direct dell’Università di Siena, il Centro Europe Direct Trapani Sicilia, il Centro Europe Direct Chieti ed il Centro Europe Direct Verona in collaborazione con l’Associazione Italiana della Comunicazione Pubblica e Istituzionale.

Di seguito il calendario dei seminari:

03/05/2023 – Chieti – Comunicazione e informazione diritto fondamentale nella traiettoria europea

10/05/2023 – Siena – Festa dell’Europa: il Piano d’azione europeo contro la disinformazione

17/05/2023 – Trapani – Infoguerre, fake news e Infosfera

24/05/2023 – Verona – Festa dell’Europa: Comunicazione e cittadini nell’Unione europea di oggi

31/05/2023 – Roma – Informazione e rapporto cittadini-istituzioni

L’incontro a Siena del 10 Maggio, organizzato in collaborazione con l’Ordine degli avvocati di Siena e con l’Ordine dei giornalisti della Regione Toscana, riguarderà “Il Piano d’azione europeo contro la disinformazione” e sarà anche un’occasione per celebrare la Festa dell’Europa.

Esso si terrà presso l’Aula Magna del Presidio Mattioli, Università di Siena, Via Mattioli 10, dalle ore 14.00 alle 18.00.

Chi desideri intervenire può inviare una e-mail a <europedirectsiena@unisi.it>.

<https://www.europedirect.unisi.it/2023/04/04/7485/>

Europe Day 2023: celebrating European unity

On 9 May, the European Union will celebrate Europe Day 2023, a moment to commemorate the Schuman Declaration on 9 May 1950.

To mark the special occasion, the EU institutions, including EU delegations and representations worldwide, will organise a wide range of online and on-site activities, providing citizens with the opportunity to discover and experience the European Union.

This May, Europe Day will bring citizens together to learn more about how the EU is supporting peace, security and democracy through its resolve in face of the Russian war of aggression against Ukraine and other conflicts worldwide. Europe Day 2023 will also enable visitors to get better acquainted with the EU's efforts to build a Europe which is green, digital and competitive, fair and skilled, as well as strong, resilient and safe. This year, it will also shed special light on the 2023 European Year of Skills, which will kick off on 9 May. On and around Europe Day, the EU institutions will host a wide range of interactive activities at their locations across the 27 EU member states and around the world.

EU citizens will be able to experience the EU institutions in Brussels, Luxembourg and Strasbourg:

Saturday, 6 May: In Brussels, citizens will be able to visit the EU institutions.

Tuesday, 9 May: Citizens will be able to visit the European Court of Justice and the **European village in Luxembourg** city, set up by the Commission representation together with the national authorities, member states' embassies, EU Institutions based in Luxembourg and civil society.

Saturday, 13 May: Members of the public will be able to look around the European Parliament in **Strasbourg** and see the seat of Europe's largest democratic body.

On 9 May, the EU will also host **the European Year of Skills Festival**. The festival will link to many other activities putting skills centre stage in different parts of Europe. On the dedicated EYS website more information can be discovered about the European Year of Skills, as well as further details on local activities across Europe.

Throughout the 27 EU member states and across the world, the EU institutions with their partners and networks will celebrate Europe Day through a host of engaging, informative and entertaining activities. The Representations of the European Commission in close cooperation with the European Parliament Liaison Offices, the Europe Direct Centres and other national and regional partners plan various actions to mark the day like entertainment activities and quizzes, festivals, sportive activities, cultural events and debates but also visibility activities and social media campaigns. In addition, EU Delegations will mark Europe Day **all around the world** and highlight European unity and solidarity.

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<https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20230425IPR82502/europe-day-2023-celebrating-european-unity>



Embracing the digital age

The European Commission adopted two proposals in the context of the European Year of Skills, with the aim to support Member States and the education and training sector in providing high-quality, inclusive and accessible digital education and training to develop the digital skills of European citizens.

The proposals address the two main common challenges jointly identified by the Commission and EU Member States: 1) the lack of a whole-of-government approach to digital education and training, and 2) difficulties in equipping people with the necessary digital skills.

In particular, all Member States are called to ensure universal access to inclusive and high-quality digital education and training by creating a coherent framework of investment, governance and teacher training for effective and inclusive digital education, including adults as well.

A key action by the Commission will be facilitating the recognition of certification of digital skills. To this end, the Commission will run a pilot project of the European Digital Skills Certificate together with several Member States. The certificate aims to enhance the trust in and acceptance of digital skills certification across the EU. This will help people have their digital skills recognised widely, quickly and easily by employers, training providers and more. The final European Digital Skills Certificate will be rolled out in 2024 based on the pilot's outcomes and the study's findings.

https://year-of-skills.europa.eu/index_it

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_23_2246



Key pieces of legislation delivering on 2030 climate targets

The Council adopted five laws that will enable the EU to cut greenhouse gas emissions within the main sectors of the economy, while making sure that the most vulnerable citizens and micro-enterprises, as well as the sectors exposed to carbon leakage, are effectively supported in the climate transition.

The laws are part of the 'Fit for 55' package, which sets the EU's policies in line with its commitment to reduce its net greenhouse gas emissions by at least 55% by 2030 compared to 1990 levels and to achieve climate neutrality in 2050.

Maritime transport emissions

Emissions from shipping will be included within the scope of the EU ETS for the first time. Obligations for shipping companies to surrender allowances will be introduced gradually: 40% for verified emissions from 2024, 70% from 2025 and 100% from 2026.

Buildings, road transport and additional sectors

A new, separate emissions trading system for the buildings, road transport and additional sectors has been established, in order to ensure cost-efficient emissions reductions in these sectors, which have thus far proven difficult to decarbonise. The new system will apply to distributors that supply fuels to the buildings, road transport and additional sectors from 2027.

Emissions from aviation

Free emission allowances for the aviation sector will be gradually phased out and full auctioning from 2026 will be implemented.

The EU ETS will apply for intra-European flights (including departing flights to the United Kingdom and Switzerland), while CORSIA will apply to extra-European flights to and from third countries participating in CORSIA from 2022 to 2027 [...]

Carbon prices on imported goods

The Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) is a mechanism which concerns imports of products in carbon-intensive industries. The objective of CBAM is to prevent that the greenhouse gas emissions reduction efforts of the EU are offset by increasing emissions outside its borders through the relocation of production to countries where policies applied to fight climate change are less ambitious than those of the EU. CBAM promotes the import of goods by non-EU businesses into the EU which fulfil the high climate standards applicable in the 27 EU member states. This will ensure a balanced treatment of such imports and is designed to encourage the EU's partners in the world to join the EU's climate efforts.



<https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20230414IPR80120/fit-for-55-parliamentadopts-key-laws-to-reach-2030-climate-target>

Are we Fit for 55?

President of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen, said: “*The fossil fuel economy has reached its limits. We want to leave the next generation a healthy planet as well as good jobs and growth that does not hurt our nature. The European Green Deal is our growth strategy that is moving towards a decarbonised economy. Europe was the first continent to declare to be climate neutral in 2050, and now we are the very first ones to put a concrete roadmap on the table. Europe walks the talk on climate policies through innovation, investment and social compensation.*”

So, achieving emission reductions in the next decade is crucial to Europe becoming the world's first climate-neutral continent by 2050 and making the European Green Deal a reality.

The European Parliament has to vote a number of bills under the Fit for 55 package aimed to make the EU's climate, energy, land use, transport and taxation policies fit for reducing net greenhouse gas emissions by at least 55% by 2030, compared to 1990 levels as proposed by the European Commission:

The vote will include three of the package's files:

- A major reform of the EU's Emissions Trading System
- The Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism
- The Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism

These proposals are all connected and complementary and will enable the necessary acceleration of greenhouse gas emission reductions in the next decade.

Although in the medium- to long-term, the benefits of EU climate policies clearly outweigh the costs of this transition, climate policies risk putting extra pressure on vulnerable households, micro-enterprises and transport users in the short run. The design of the policies in today's package therefore fairly spreads the costs of tackling and adapting to climate change in fact Europe adopted a **new Social Climate Fund** to finance Member States to help citizens investments in energy efficiency, new heating and cooling systems, and cleaner mobility. The Social Climate Fund would be financed by the EU budget, using an amount equivalent to 25% of the expected revenues of emissions trading for building and road transport fuels.



<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/it/policies/green-deal/fit-for-55-the-eu-plan-for-a-green-transition/>

Migrazione di manodopera: nuovi canali per lavorare nell'UE

L'Unione europea sta incoraggiando la migrazione legale con l'obiettivo di affrontare la carenza di manodopera, colmare il deficit di competenze e stimolare la crescita economica.

Ma cos'è la Carta Blu?

La Carta blu è un permesso di lavoro e di soggiorno che consente ai cittadini di paesi terzi di lavorare a risiedere in un paese dell'UE, a patto di essere in possesso di un diploma o di un titolo equivalente e un'offerta di lavoro che comprenda una soglia salariale minima.

L'aggiornamento normativo, che entrerà in vigore alla fine del 2023, fissa il periodo dell'offerta lavorativa a un minimo di sei mesi, allineando la soglia salariale almeno al 100 % della retribuzione media annua lorda del paese di occupazione.

La Carta blu può avere valida fino a quattro anni e può essere rinnovata. I titolari della carta possono portare i loro familiari a vivere con loro nell'UE.

Viene riconosciuta in tutti i paesi dell'UE, ad eccezione di Danimarca e Irlanda.

Coloro che non dispongono dei requisiti per ottenere la Carta Blu, possono invece optare per il **Permesso Unico**; tale permesso può essere rilasciato dal paese dell'UE dove il cittadino del paese terzo lavorerà e andrà a vivere. Il documento può avere fino a due anni di validità.

La Direttiva del 2011 sul permesso unico è attualmente in corso di revisione. Per rendere l'UE una prospettiva più attraente, si propone di ridurre la procedura di candidatura dagli attuali 4 mesi a 90 giorni. Inoltre, la procedura potrebbe venire ridotta a 45 giorni, per i richiedenti in possesso di un permesso o selezionati attraverso il partenariato dei talenti dell'UE.

Il permesso non sarà più legato a un singolo datore di lavoro, per consentire ai lavoratori di poter cambiare impegno, snellendo le procedure di assunzione e riducendo il rischio di esposizione allo sfruttamento. I lavoratori sarebbero inoltre autorizzati a mantenere il permesso unico durante la disoccupazione per un periodo fino a nove mesi.

Dopo l'approvazione della posizione negoziale da parte del Parlamento europeo ad Aprile, adesso inizieranno le discussioni con il Consiglio riguardo alla versione finale del provvedimento [...].

L'ultima opzione è lo status di **Soggiornante di lungo periodo** che permette di soggiornare e lavorare nell'UE per un periodo indefinito ai cittadini di paesi terzi; il Parlamento intende ridurre la durata dell'obbligo di soggiorno necessario per potersi qualificare da 5 a 3 anni, come proposto dalla Commissione, e includere i rifugiati e gli altri gruppi di persone che affrontare barriere. Le nuove norme garantirebbero la parità di trattamento con i cittadini dell'UE in settori come l'occupazione, l'istruzione e le prestazioni sociali [...]



<https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/headlines/society/20230413STO79903/labour-migration-improving-legal-avenues-to-work-in-the-eu>

A EP call for you!

The European Parliament is currently seeking proposals to fund communication projects that aim to mobilise voters for the European Elections 2024 (EE24) and increase public awareness of the Parliament's role in democracy, especially among young and first-time voters.

National non-profit organisations or groups thereof, having legal personality (civil societies or change-makers), can submit proposals in two rounds, with deadlines on 16 May and 28 September, 2023 via the Funding & Tenders Portal Electronic Submission System.

Grant beneficiaries will have a grant term of about ten months, assuring the end of the project within June 30, 2024 in fact, projects should take place between the signature of the grant agreement and the European elections in May 2024, with follow-up actions until December 2024, adapting their activities' timeline according to the different phases of the EP campaign.

Engagement grants will co-finance projects, with contributions from 5.000 to 60.000 euros, that deepen connections with communities, building capacity for civic education and involve citizens in the voting process. All the documents may be submitted in any EU official language except for supporting documents aimed at demonstrating the operational capacity of the applicant,

which must be submitted either translated or together with a summary in English.

Once awarded, grant beneficiaries will need to submit their organisation's profile, campaigns and event in the together.eu platform.

Civil society engagement actions are actions or events implemented on a local, national or trans-national level (of up to five Member States) and on an online or offline basis by a legal person (for instance, a civil society organisation, University or other educational entity, a public or private stakeholder or other multiplier network).

At the end of the project and, at the latest, within two months from the end date of the grant agreement, the beneficiary will submit a final report.

<https://www.europarl.europa.eu/contracts-and-grants/en/grants/media-and-events>



MEPs renew suspension of EU import duties on Ukrainian exports

The International Trade Committee renewed for another year the suspension of EU imports duties on Ukrainian exports to support the Country's economy.

The proposal, approved by the Members of the International Trade Committee, suspends import duties, anti-dumping duties and safeguards on Ukrainian exports to the European Union for another year, against the background of Russia's war of aggression that is hampering Ukraine's ability to trade with the rest of the world.

The suspension of tariffs applies to fruits and vegetables subject to the entry price system, as well as agricultural products and processed agricultural products subject to tariff-rate quotas. Industrial products are subject to zero duties since 1 January 2023 under the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement, so they are not included in the new proposal.

These are the words of Sandra Kalniete, Member of the European Parliament "I strongly support renewing the trade-liberalisation measures that currently help ensure Ukrai-

nian continuity and stability of trade amidst brutal war caused by Russia. These measures are pivotal to strengthening Ukraine's resilience in the present and with an eye toward the future, as we work to advance Ukraine's gradual integration in the EU internal market. Our solidarity with Ukraine is consistent, transparent, and rock-solid, which has been further reinforced by Ukraine's EU candidate status. Ukraine's future is in the European Union".

<https://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20230424IPR82043/meps-renew-suspension-of-eu-import-duties-on-ukrainian-exports>



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La newsletter di EUROPE DIRECT

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Numero chiuso in redazione: 28 aprile 2023
Stampa: *Centro Stampa dell'Università*
Registrazione presso il Tribunale di Siena
n. 8 del 27 dicembre 2012