ETUCE study on mandatory OSH measures and the state of education in Europe

Presentation for the ETUCE Committee 15 November 2021
ETUCE Survey on COVID-19 measures and education

Research method: primary data through survey among ETUCE Committee members.

The study gathered responses from **41 countries** where ETUCE is represented:

- Albania
- Armenia
- Austria
- Belarus
- Belgium
- Croatia
- Cyprus
- Czechia
- Denmark
- Estonia
- Finland
- France
- Georgia
- Germany
- Greece
- Hungary
- Israel
- Italy
- Kazakhstan
- Kyrgyzstan
- Latvia
- Lithuania
- Luxembourg
- Malta
- Montenegro
- Netherlands
- Norway
- Poland
- Portugal
- Romania
- Russian Federation
- Scotland
- Serbia
- Slovakia
- Slovenia
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- Tajikistan
- Turkey
- United Kingdom
- Ukraine

*All data provided in this presentation are updated as of 5 November 2021.*
Format of teaching
Online and hybrid education increase with level of education

Hybrid teaching is more frequent than online teaching at all levels of education

HER is the more affected by online and hybrid teaching than other levels of education
OSH Measures
**OSH measures in place to counter the spread of COVID-19**

- **Reduced Class Size**: 13%
- **Staggering Arrival Times**: 38%
- **Improved Ventilation**: 50%
- **Physical Distancing**: 55%
- **Masks (Students)**: 63%
- **Masks (Teachers)**: 65%

*Other OSH measures in place:*
- Improved disinfection practice
- Separation of classrooms
- Incident level mechanisms
- Individual risk assessments
- Rapid and PCR testing
- Principle of dispersal and ‘bubble action’

*A total of 113 measures across 41 countries have been analysed.*
Quarantine and detection policies
Regional differences apply (e.g. Belgium and Germany).
In many countries, duration of quarantine varies based on:
- if the person is vaccinated or not,
- age,
- presence of symptoms.
Impact of quarantine on educational activities

26 countries out of 41 put in place emergency online and/or hybrid teaching when a student is tested positive.

Let’s discuss...

Do you see any risk that hybrid teaching become the norm even after the COVID-19 pandemic?
85% of countries do not provide any additional support to teachers in case of emergency teaching.

Other supportive measures:
- Equipment and compensation of internet costs (Belgium).
- Additional training on pedagogies and mental health and well-being (Estonia).
- Technical equipment (Germany).
Vaccination
51% countries impose mandatory requirements for education personnel. 20 countries do not apply any mandatory requirements.

Some countries, i.e., Austria and Greece, Lithuania, only apply regular testing to non-vaccinated personnel.
Consequences for non-compliant personnel

- **Redundancy**: 7.5%
  - Austria, Latvia, Lithuania, Ukraine

- **Salary suspension**: 12.5%
  - Cyprus, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Lithuania, Ukraine

- **Quarantine**: 17.5%
  - Croatia, Kazakhstan, Luxembourg, Serbia, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Turkey

- **Work remotely**: 15%
  - Armenia, Czechia, Israel, Latvia, Slovenia, Kazakhstan

- **None**: 10%
  - Belarus, Germany, Kyrgyzstan, Romania
In 72% countries where mandatory measures apply, the decision of imposing such measures was not taken in agreement with education trade unions.

Yes: 48%
No: 28%
Partially: 24%

Austria, Cyprus, Germany, Kazakhstan, Luxembourg, Tajikistan, Turkey
Social Dialogue
Consultation between education trade unions and education authorities on mandatory measures

- **Never**: 27%
- **Rarely**: 27%
- **Frequently**: 13%
- **Sometimes**: 30%
- **Always**: 3%

No agreement with governments on mandatory vaccinations, as...

- ... the topic has **not been discussed**.
- ... there was **no consultation**
- ... consultation was **informal** and non-binding
- ... consultations have **not been considered**
- ... only vaccination **prioritisation** was considered
Summary (1)

- Most countries resumed in-presence activities at all levels of education. However, in 45% of countries, online and/or hybrid teaching remain the norm.

- 51% countries apply mandatory requirements for teachers in order for them to perform their job. In most cases, this decision was not agreed with education trade unions. This share is expected to raise.

- 9 countries out of 41 apply mandatory COVID-19 vaccination for all education personnel.

- In some countries, non-compliant education personnel are subjected to suspension of salaries and/or redundancy.
Summary (2)

- All countries continue to apply OSH measures to contain the spread of the COVID-19 virus (mandatory mask, physical distancing, ventilation etc.)
- All countries apply quarantine measure to teachers and/or students when a positive case is detected.
- The majority of countries put in place emergency hybrid and/or online teaching to sick learners.
- 85% of countries do not provide any additional support to teachers in case of emergency teaching.