



CEN and CENELEC Technical Body Officers Event

Annex III Organizations

Inclusiveness of the ESS

- ▶ An **Inclusive** CEN and CENELEC System to be the preferred choice for standardization in Europe is one of the 5 goals identified in the **CEN and CENELEC Strategy 2030**
- ▶ Participation of **Societal Stakeholders and SMEs in European standardization**, complementing their participation at national level → **Specific partnerships with CEN and CENELEC**
- ▶ CEN-CENELEC commitment to inclusiveness reinforced by
 - **EU Regulation 1025/2012** on European Standardization
 - **EU Standardization Strategy (2022)**



Effective participation



“European Standardization Organizations shall encourage and facilitate an appropriate representation and effective participation of all relevant stakeholders, including SMEs, consumer organizations and environmental and social stakeholders in their standardization activities’ (article 5). ”

European Regulation (1025/2012) on European Standardization

Annex III organizations

ANNEX III

EUROPEAN STAKEHOLDER ORGANISATIONS ELIGIBLE FOR UNION FINANCING

1. A European organisation representing SMEs in European standardisation activities which:
 - (a) is non-governmental and non-profit-making;
 - (b) has as its statutory objectives and activities to represent the interests of SMEs in the standardisation process at European level, to raise their awareness for standardisation and to motivate them to become involved in the standardisation process;
 - (c) has been mandated by non-profit organisations representing SMEs in at least two thirds of the Member States, to represent the interests of SMEs in the standardisation process at European level.
2. A European organisation representing consumers in European standardisation activities which:
 - (a) is non-governmental, non-profit-making, and independent of industry, commercial and business or other conflicting interests;
 - (b) has as its statutory objectives and activities to represent consumer interests in the standardisation process at European level;
 - (c) has been mandated by national non-profit consumer organisations in at least two thirds of the Member States, to represent the interests of consumers in the standardisation process at European level.
3. A European organisation representing environmental interests in European standardisation activities which:
 - (a) is non-governmental, non-profit-making, and independent of industry, commercial and business or other conflicting interests;
 - (b) has as its statutory objectives and activities to represent environmental interests in the standardisation process at European level;
 - (c) has been mandated by national non-profit environmental organisations in at least two thirds of the Member States, to represent environmental interests in the standardisation process at European level.
4. A European organisation representing social interests in European standardisation activities which:
 - (a) is non-governmental, non-profit-making, and independent of industry, commercial and business or other conflicting interests;
 - (b) has as its statutory objectives and activities to represent social interests in the standardisation process at European level;
 - (c) has been mandated by national non-profit social organisations in at least two thirds of the Member States, to represent social interests in the standardisation process at European level.



Annex III organizations

Consumers



Environment



Workers



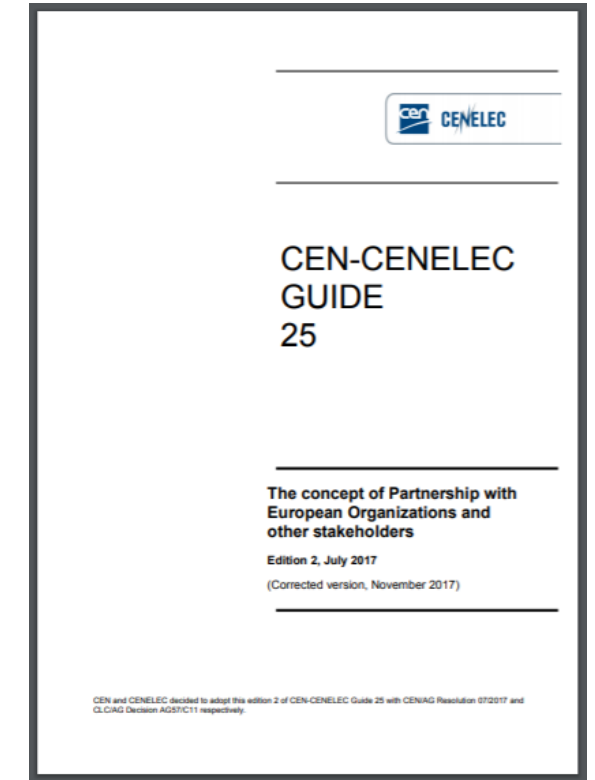
SMEs



CEN-CENELEC cooperation with Annex III organizations

2 main areas

- Participation in the Governing bodies and their working or advisory groups including:
 - General Assemblies
 - Technical Boards
 - Presidential Committee Groups on SMEs and Societal stakeholders
 - Board Standing Committee Policy and Strategy
- Participation in any Technical Committees and other technical bodies!



Participation at Technical Level

Annex III organizations

- Have access to working documents & normative references
- Can participate in any Technical Committee and Working Group without restriction
 - Technical Committees: Observer
 - Working Groups: Expert
- Can **comment** at Enquiry and during Formal Vote
- Can submit **opinions** on draft standards

Same rights as all
other experts



The Opinion mechanism of Annex III

Opinion mechanism is an extra right granted only to the Annex III Organizations

Purpose of the Opinion is to:

- Enhance the **visibility** of Annex IIIs views, they are visible to all voters while the ballot is open & presented together with the voting results
- Promote **transparency** during the ballot phase



The Opinion mechanism of Annex III

- ▲ Right to submit an Opinion at:
 - ▲ Enquiry
 - ▲ Formal Vote
- ▲ Opinion is expected to be:
 - ▲ Used positively
 - ▲ Used when participating
 - ▲ Constructive for TC to take on board
- ▲ Opinion is not part of the ballot:
 - ▲ Outcome vote: not affected
 - ▲ National delegation principle: not affected



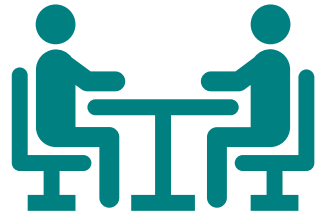
Favourable



**Not
Favourable**

Fostering inclusive drafting processes & environments

- [**CEN-CLC Guide 25**](#)
- [**Guidelines**](#) on '**New normal**' for effective virtual, hybrid or Face-to-Face meetings
- Effective participation of Annex III in Standardization [**CEN BOSS**](#)
- [**CENELEC BOSS**](#)
- CEN and CENELEC website pages on [**SMEs**](#) and [**Societal stakeholders**](#)





Who is the ETUC and what we do?

- The ETUC is the voice of workers and represents **45 million members** from 94 trade union organisations in 42 European countries
- Main objective is to **maintain a social Europe** (which differs much from the “American” or “Chinese” social model)



- **A social partner**, as enshrined in the Treaty of the European Union (TFEU)
- We mainly help shape legislation.... But also, **standardization**

How are we organised?

- In total, circa 55 ETUC secretariat staff members
- 3,6 FTE at ETUC Secretariat, to oversee the execution of the **standardization activities**, under the political leadership of *Claes-Mikael Stahl* (*Deputy General Secretary*)
- Circa 14-17 ETUC experts, actively participating in Technical Committees



- **ETUC ‘Standardization’ Committee**
 - Consists of delegates of ETUC affiliates and European Trade-Union Federations (ETUFs)
 - 2/year regular meetings
 - Steers the political direction
- **Specific Task Forces**, per area of standardization
 - Machinery, PPE, AI, regulation 1025/2012, etc. Focus on individual standards

We support standard setting – for a safer working environment, green and digital transition



EN 149 Face masks



EN ISO 13850
Emergency stop



EN ISO 374-6: 2025
Hairdresser glove



Wind Turbines



Firefighting equipment

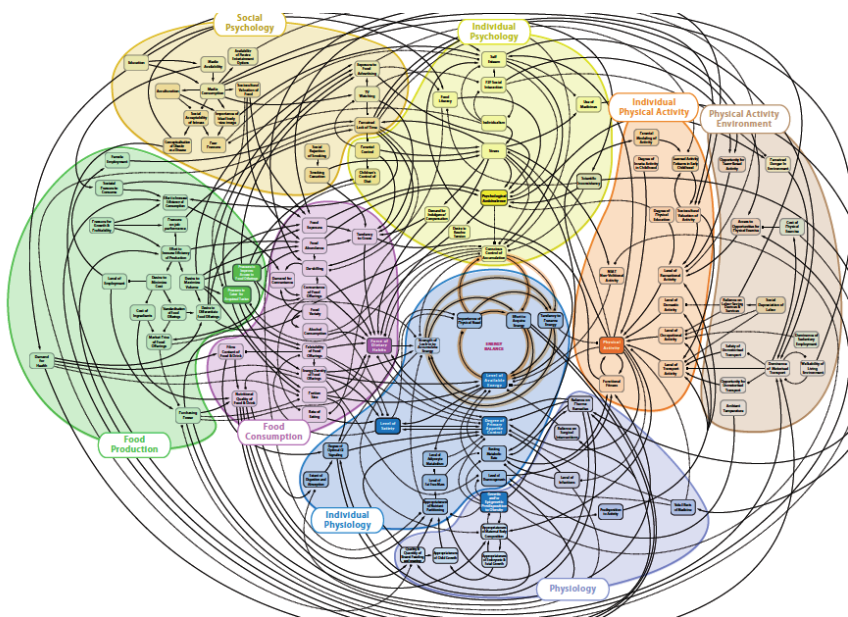
We are small and limited resources

Main **selection criteria** for participation in Technical Committees are:

- Standardization project must **directly affect** working conditions and **workers**
- **Expertise available**, to actively contribute to the standardization work ?
- **Can we financially afford it**, over several years?



Participating in standard setting is challenging



- We are happy with the **automatic participation** in Technical Committees (note: not the case for ISO)
- Standardization Business model: **“pay to play”**
 - commercial organisations have a “return on investment”: must comply with standards, to sell products (and make a profit)
 - Non-commercial organisations need funding (no “return-on investment”)
- **Complex** standardization system: effectiveness and efficiency need improvement (see [evaluation of regulation](#))
 - ➔ Only “professional” standardizers can afford to participate
 - Influencing content of a standard is challenging
 - ➔ Incentivize people to join standard setting, is not evident

Inclusiveness – what it means in practice



Application of “inclusiveness” of regulation 1025/2012 on standardization

- ~50% of CEN standards are drafted by ISO Technical Bodies
- ~80% of CENELEC standards are drafted by IEC Technical Bodies



Note: Unlike CEN-CENELEC no special status for weaker stakeholders in ISO and IEC

Participation in NSB mirror committees:

- very limited because of national resources
- Often outvoted, because of majority voting – cfr Cabin Air quality

Voting, via the NSBS, but we do not have 34 experts, one for each CEN-CENELEC Member



There are (some) good examples: EN ISO 374-6 “Hairdresser gloves”
BUT, it took 6 years for a simple standard, of which 3 years in “processing”.



Right of opinion



“Nice to have”, but limited teeth:
Highlights position, that that’s about it

➔ ETUC use is very limited

Limit of standardization: Why?



- Historically, standardization bodies elaborated “technical” standards. And they are good at it
- The governance system of the technical standardization, the voting processes, are “multi-stakeholder”
- Social partners negotiate **bilateral** or **tri-logue**

- Principle accepted in Germany (DIN 820-1:2022)
- **Principle not accepted by CEN and CENELEC members (and de-facto not by ISO and IEC)**

Limit of standardization – some examples

- Standard setting activities move – quietly - into (social) fields, **addressing workers issues** – some examples:
 - Human Resource Management
 - ISO 23326 'Employee Engagement'
 - ISO/DIS 30434 'Workforce allocation'
 - ISO/AWI 30442 "Performance management"
 - *etc*
 - Human trafficking, forced labour, and modern slavery (ISO 37200)
 - Criteria for quality Internships (ISO 29997)



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Questions & Comments

