

# Enhancing the involvement of SMEs & societal stakeholders: Annex III organizations



in cooperation with



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# 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). ”

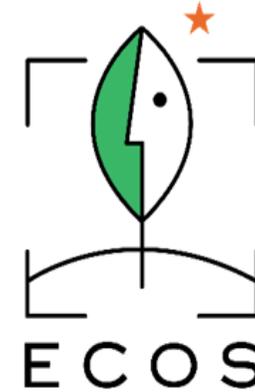
European Regulation (1025/2012) on European Standardization

# Annex III Organizations

Consumers



Environment



Workers



SMEs



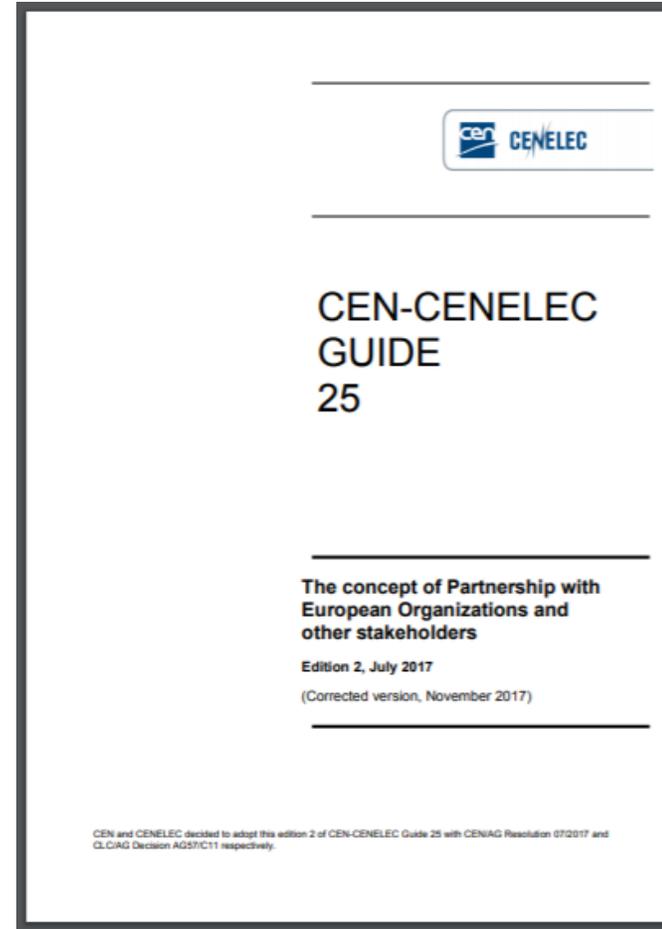
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# CEN-CENELEC cooperation with Annex III organizations

## 2 main areas

- Participation in the **Governing bodies** and their working or advisory groups
- Participation in **Technical Committees** and other technical bodies



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# ETUC

ETUC, the **European Trade Union Confederation**, is the voice of workers in Europe:



- 45 million members
- 90 trade union organisations
- 38 European countries
- 10 European Trade Union Federations

[www.etuc.org](http://www.etuc.org)  
@ETUC\_standards



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# ETUC

## The ETUC addresses a wide range of issues:

- Collective bargaining, wage policy & pay rise
  - Digitalisation & platform economy / Atypical work
  - Economic governance / European Semester
  - Education & Training
  - Employment / Labour Market policy
  - Equality & nondiscrimination
  - European Social Dialogue
  - Gender equality
  - Health & Safety
  - Industrial policy
  - Industrial relations
  - Social protection policy / Social Inclusion
  - Sustainable development / Climate Change
  - Migration
- And **STANDARDIZATION**



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# Standards & Trade Unions

The relevance of standards for trade unions is multifaceted:

- **The scope of standardization has extended beyond product safety, performance, and interoperability.**

It now affects a wide range of issues such as **occupational health and safety** management, **competences** and **training**, **service provision** and **privacy at work**.

- Standards increasingly impact the organisation of production and working conditions.



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# Standards & Trade Unions

Cleaning service (INSTA 800)



Maintenance [CEN/TC 319](#)



Private security at airports [CEN/TC 439](#)



Quality of care of elderly people [CEN/TC 449](#)



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# ETUC STANDardisation project

Although the European Standardization System (ESS) is open to the participation of all stakeholders, it is largely dominated by industry.

The ETUC has been chosen to represent social stakeholders (i.e. **workers**) in the ESS.

In 2015, the ETUC launched the **ETUC STANDardisation project**.

- 2,4 FTE at ETUC Secretariat to oversee the execution of the project;
- ETUC Special Committee 'Standardisation':
  - ✓ Consists of delegates of the ETUC affiliates & European Trade Unions Federations.
  - ✓ Meets twice a year & is consulted on important issues regarding standardisation.



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# ETUC mission

- ▶ **Facilitate and strengthen the participation of trade unions** in standardization activities.

*Note: ETUI also coordinates standardisation activities, mainly on machinery & PPE linked work,*

- ▶ **Influence** the standard content to:
  - ✓ Include high quality working conditions;
  - ✓ Avoid that standardization initiatives encroach upon national labour laws, collective agreements and collective bargaining;
- ▶ **Serve as a competence centre** on standardization for trade unions, bringing **support and advice** to trade union experts.
- ▶ **Training and raising awareness activities** for trade union experts.



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# Participation at technical level

## Annex III organizations in partnership with CEN-CENELEC

<b>CEN &amp; CENELEC Technical Bodies</b>		
ANEC	166	58
ECOS	200	92
ETUC	57	/
SBS	184	12

*Numbers from Q1 2020*



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# Participation at technical level

## Annex III organizations in partnership with CEN-CENELEC

- ▲ Access to working documents
- ▲ Participation in any TC without restriction
  - ▲ TC: Observer
  - ▲ WG: Expert
- ▲ Commenting also during formal approval
- ▲ Only for Societal Annex III: Submit Opinion on draft standards



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# The Opinion mechanism (Societal Stakeholders)

- ▲ 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



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# 256

Jan. 2017

Sept. 2020

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# The Opinion mechanism (Societal Stakeholders)

1. SSOs → CCMC
2. CCMC → TC Secretary & Chair
3. TC Secretary **uploads** it on the eCommittees tool (CEN) or Collaboration Tool (CENELEC)
4. TC Secretary **informs** the TC for consideration
  - together with all submitted comments (ENQ)
  - At first occasion (most likely next meeting) (Formal Vote)
5. TC **agrees** on the follow up → CCMC

→ [CEN BOSS](#); [CENELEC BOSS](#)



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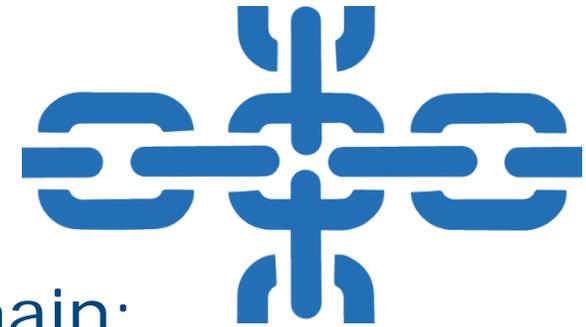
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# Testimonial from ETUC expert: Ornella CILONA

- ▶ Represented the ETUC in the CEN/TC 447 '**Horizontal standards for the provision of services**', set up in 2016.
- ▶ Mainly participated in the WG 4, aimed at providing the guidelines for "the assessment of the capacity of service providers and the evaluation of service proposals", in the framework of procurement.



Two main reasons for **ETUC** participation:

- ▶ to improve working conditions in the supply chain;
- ▶ to include references to collective bargaining and social rights into the standard.



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# ETUC main contributions to FprEN 17371-1

- ▶ The standard on Service Procurement (FprEN 17371-1) under development (ENQ in 2019). It refers to ISO 26000 (now adopted as a CEN standard) on “Social responsibility”, a standard written with the active contribution of stakeholders from all over the world.



- ▶ FprEN 17371-1 contains an annex – shaped by **ETUC** and **ANEC** – which lists **accessibility** and **sustainability** criteria related to evaluate “best value” in private procurement.



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# ETUC main contributions to FprEN 17371-1

The standard also addresses issues such as:

- ▶ Provision for an up-to-date certificate on social security contributions for salaried employees and self-employed persons;
- ▶ Human resources, focusing on both quality and quantity of personnel, posted workers and subcontractors;
- ▶ Possible submission of a document on the policy of collective agreements at the place of work;
- ▶ Violation of the International Labour Organization's Fundamental labour rights.



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# Lessons learnt

## LESSON 1

Trade Unions' representatives and CEN-CENELEC technical body officers can learn a lot from each other's experiences and opinions.

## LESSON 2

The role of Annex III organizations opens up new perspectives in standardization, for both content and method.

## LESSON 3

The consensus principle is a crucial one in standardization. It requires openness, transparency and dialogue.



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# Collaboration with Annex III Partners: not only technical

- ✓ Participation in the **Governing bodies** and their working or advisory groups (General Assemblies, Administrative Boards, Policy Groups, Technical Boards,...)
- ✓ 2 **dedicated Working Groups** (SME-WG ; SSG)
- ✓ Joint **Policy & Communication** actions
  - ✓ #TrustStandards
  - ✓ E-learning tool
- ✓ CEN-CENELEC **Strategy** 2030
- ✓ ...



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# eLearning course

**SOCIETAL STAKEHOLDERS AND STANDARDS**

Your gateway to the world of standardization

A FREE ONLINE COURSE FOR CIVIL SOCIETY

FOLLOW THE COURSE AT  
[WWW.STANDARDS4ALL.EU](http://WWW.STANDARDS4ALL.EU)

#STANDARDS4ALL

[www.standards4all.eu](http://www.standards4all.eu)



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# CEN-CENELEC supporting tools for Annex III Partners

## Societal Stakeholders:

- ▶ [Societal Stakeholders' Toolbox](#)
- ▶ Brochure [Civil society - Improving, strengthening and legitimising the European standardization system](#)
- ▶ Effective participation of Societal Stakeholders in Standardization [CEN BOSS/CENELEC BOSS](#)

## SMEs:

- ▶ [SME Toolbox](#)
- ▶ [CEN-CENELEC Guide 17](#): Guide for Standards writers taking into account SME's needs
- ▶ [National SME Helpdesks](#); LinkedIn '[SMEs and Standards](#)'
- ▶ Video [Standards, business tools for SMEs](#)



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# Key Take-Aways

- 4 “**Annex III organizations**” representing SMEs and Societal Stakeholders in the European Standardization system (*ANEC, ECOS, ETUC, SBS*)
- Same rights as **CEN-CENELEC European Partners** ([Guide 25](#)), and more...
  - e.g. **Right of opinion** (for Societal stakeholders)
- **Inclusiveness, transparency & openness** of the system makes better standards



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# Any questions?

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