

## **Topic: EU Strategic Framework on Occupational Health & Safety (OSH) 2021-2027**

### **Brief description and main aims:**

As the EU Strategic Framework Health & Safety at Work (2014-2020) came to its end, the European Commission prepared and published an updated Strategic Framework for the period 2021-2027. This is considered as high priority.

With the renewal of the Strategic Framework, recommendations, as well as the revision of some legislative acts, the European Commission aims to:

- better **anticipate and manage changes** in the workplace, particularly in connection with the digital and green transitions;
- improve the **prevention of workplace accidents** and work-related **illnesses**;
- prepare for a **possible health crisis**.

### **Why FIEC is dealing with this topic:**

Health and Safety at the workplace is an all-time priority for FIEC, who is also cooperating closely with the trade unions (EFBWW) on that matter. Indeed, even if the situation has improved over the past years, the construction industry remains sensitive to accidents and work-related diseases.

In its response to the Commission's consultation, FIEC pointed out that the current legislative framework is sufficient, so that the focus should rather be put on the implementation of the existing rules, through the exchange of best practice, awareness raising campaigns, accompanying measures for companies and in particular SMEs, etc.

However, as the European Commission intends to revise several relevant pieces of legislation anyway (i.e. asbestos, silica, REACH, workplaces, etc.) it is very important that FIEC gets involved in the debate.

### **Actions and key dates:**

**26/02/2021** – [FIEC contribution](#) to the European Commission's public consultation on the renewal of the EU Strategic Framework on Occupational Safety & Health for the period 2021-2027

**28/06/2021** – Publication of the new EU Strategic Framework

**06/10/2021 and 10/02/2022** – FIEC and EFBWW social dialogue meetings: preparation of a joint statement in reaction to the new strategy.

**05/10/2022** – FIEC and EFBWW officially adopt a joint statement on the EU Strategic Framework on Occupational Safety & Health (2021-2027)