

Dear Colleagues,

The European Trade Union Institute (ETUI) is pleased to invite you to participate in the seminar **“Strategic Trade Union Transnational Cooperation”**, which will take place from **5 to 6 November 2025** in **Sesimbra, Portugal** in cooperation with the European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC), with the participation of **Esther Lynch, General Secretary of the ETUC**.

This high-level seminar will bring together trade union leaders, department heads, and senior officials engaged in European and international trade union activity, as well as those dealing with the planning and implementation of trade union strategic policies and initiatives.

It will involve academic experts from **Sciences Po – Paris**, the **Università degli Studi – Milan**, the **University College London – London** and the **ETUI**.

The activity is designed as an intensive platform for analysis, strategic reflection, and collaborative exchange.

The seminar will focus on the analysis of the current economic and political phase. We will explore the potential of analysing long-term trends, referring to economic and social policies. We will engage in exercising the strategic analysis of the ultraliberal, sovereigntist, and populist attacks on the European project from the perspective of possible trade union responses.

### **Objectives**

The seminar aims to generate added value for trade union organisations by enabling participants to:

- **Develop strategic assessments** and a **critical evaluation** of the current socio-economic phase.
- Reflect on and engage with theories of **social fragmentation and re-composition**, in the context of profound transformations in the labour market.
- Analyse the **relevance of long-term trend analysis** for shaping effective trade union strategies.
- Understand the **historical development of inequality**, and the policy choices that have contributed to it.
- Examine **case studies** of successful **long-term strategies**, which built strong narratives and translated analysis into effective communication.
- **Assess the context and implications** of the publication of the **“Great Reset”**, including potential political narratives that may emerge.
- Discuss factors and elements that can characterise **the strategic approaches to defending and renewing the European project**, rooted in critical analysis and the claims of the European trade union movement.

### **Participants**

The seminar is intended for **Trade union leaders, department heads, and senior officials** involved in **European and international trade union activity**, and/or dealing with **strategic planning and implementation** within trade union organisations.

### **Working languages**

The working language will be **English** - additional languages may be provided depending on participants' needs.

## **Training and Accommodation Venue**

**Do Mar Hotel in Sesimbra, Portugal, [Hotel Do Mar in Sesimbra, Portugal | Official Site](#) Address: [R. Gen. Humberto Delgado, 2970-628 Sesimbra, Portugal](#)**

## **Arrival and Departure**

Participants are expected to arrive on **Tuesday, 4 November 2025 for a welcome dinner.**

The training will end on **Thursday 6 November 2025 with a lunch.**

A draft programme will be sent shortly.

## **Participants' Registrations**

The course is limited to a maximum of 20 participants. Selection will be made to ensure a balanced representation of trade union organisations. Registrations can be submitted via the online form available at the following link: <https://crm.etui.org/form/strategic-trade-union-cooperatio>

The deadline for enrolments is the **3rd of October 2025.**

## **Participants' Fee**

A direct monetary contribution (enrolment fees) to ETUI Education activities is required per participant, the cost is 60€ for the entire course program.

## **Reimbursement of Travel Expenses**

Accommodation will be arranged for all participants by the ETUI. Attached you will find ETUI Travel Policy .

Please do not book your travel until you receive confirmation of your participation.

Should you need any additional information please do not hesitate to contact Tsela Ceulemans, [tceulemans@etui.org](mailto:tceulemans@etui.org)