

Supporting Migrants' integration into the Labour Market

Venue: IG Metall, Alte Jakobstraße 149 10969 Berlin, Germany

Alwin-Brandes-Saal

24-25 February 2026

Hybrid event: [Zoom link](#)

Interpretation: English, German

Day 1: 09:30 – 16:30 | Day 2: 09:30 – 13:30

Agenda

Day 1 – 24 February 2026

09:30 – 10:00	<p>Welcome and introduction</p> <p>Giulio Romani, Confederal Secretary, ETUC Representatives of the German partners</p>
10:00 – 11:00	<p>EU-level policy context on migrants labour market integration: current situation and future directions</p> <p>Ursula Hönich, Policy Officer, unit HOME C2 Legal Pathways and Integration, European Commission (online)</p> <p>Open discussion</p>
11:00 – 11:30	<p><i>Coffee Break</i></p>
11:30 – 12:30	<p>Policy context of migrants' labour market integration in Germany: challenges and institutional responses</p> <p>Paolo Santini, Senior Researcher, Department on Migration, Integration and International Labour Market Research, Institute for Employment Research (IAB)</p> <p>Open discussion</p>
12:30 – 13:30	<p><i>Lunch Break</i></p>
13:30 – 14:45	<p>Roundtable: How to strengthen Trade Union capacity – effectively inform and reach out to migrant workers</p> <p>Moderator: Stefaan Peirsman, Migration and Discrimination, ACV-CSC, Belgium</p> <p>- Sören Lieske, IG Metall</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Daniel Gutiérrez, ver.di - Tanja Krstova, Trade Union Legal Representative, ZSSS, LABOUR-INT III partner, Slovenia - Michał Polakowski, Social Policy Specialist, OPZZ, LABOUR-INT III partner, Poland <p>Open discussion</p>
14:45 – 16:15	<p>Roundtable: Enforcement of Labour Rights as a Cornerstone of a Fair and Sustainable Labour Market Integration <i>Sharing initiatives, good practices, plan of a European Counselling Network Fair Labour Mobility and UnionMigrantNet</i></p> <p>Moderator: Mercedes Miletti, Senior Advisor, ETUC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dominique John, Executive Director, European Support Network for Fair Mobility - Philipp Schwertmann, Head of Department Migration and Decent Work, Arbeit und Leben Berlin-Brandenburg - Atanaska Todorova, Project Manager LABOUR-INT III and UnionMigrantNet member, CITUB, Bulgaria <p>Open discussion</p>
16:15 – 16:30	Conclusions of 1st day

Day 2 – 25 February 2026

09:30 – 09:45	<p>Introduction Recap of Day 1 and objectives for Day 2</p>
09:45 – 11:00	<p>The labour approach against Forced Labour – The German National Action Plan Against Labour Exploitation</p> <p>Moderator: Philipp Schwertmann, Head of Department Migration and Decent Work, Arbeit und Leben Berlin-Brandenburg</p> <p>Bastian Jantz, Head of Division VIb4, German Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs</p> <p>Inspiring the practice: Enabling practitioners to step up against forced labour and labour exploitation</p>

	Eliane Friess, Project Officer, Service Centre against Forced Labour, Arbeit und Leben Berlin-Brandenburg Open discussion
11:00 – 11:30	<i>Coffee Break</i>
11:30 – 12:40	Fair Recruitment: The Key to sustainable integration of migrant workers Moderator: Vera Egenberger, Political Officer, DGB, Democracy, Migration and Anti-Racism Policy Department <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Alix Nasri, Labour Migration Officer and Member of Fair Recruitment Initiative Coordination Team, ILO (online) - Ira Rachmawati, Human & Trade Union Rights Officer, Recruitment Advisor, ITUC - Shakil Akhter Chowdhury, Secretary General, BLF Bangladesh and ITUC-Bangladesh Council (online) Open discussion
12:40 – 13:00	Conclusions Representatives of the German partners
13:00 – 14:00	<i>End of meeting, lunch provided at the venue</i>