

Dear colleagues, please find the ENSR newsletter for December 2014.

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Newsletter

December 2014

Foreword by ENSR Chairman

Dr. Kim Møller



Programme and policy evaluations are a large, and perhaps increasing, part of what our network offers to the European Commission. Pursuing our strategy of “*getting closer to the customer*” (in this case: the Commission) we are trying to arrange a half day seminar in April 2015 as part of our annual ENSR Days in Brussels. We are still in the planning phase so let us see what is doable, but the intention is to have a context setting presentation at the beginning and then a panel discussion with evaluation representatives from different DGs.

We have identified a researcher who just published his PhD on evaluation practices in the Commission and we are seeking to invite him to present at the ENSR Days 2015 event in Brussels. Then we will invite our contacts in the Evaluation Units in the various EU Directorate Generals — including DG RTD with which we have a framework contract. Any other contacts/suggestions for Evaluation Units in the Commission to be invited to the event will be most appreciated.

Finally, along with the Director and Secretariat, I would like to wish you all a wonderful Christmas period and a fantastic start to 2015.

In this edition

- [Foreword by ENSR Chairman](#)
- [Annual ENSR Days 2015](#)
- [New ENSR partner in Hungary](#)
- [Projects](#)
- [Proposals](#)
- [ENSR Fellow](#)
- [ENSR Thematic Groups](#)
- [ENSR Researchers](#)
- [Forward](#)
- [Want to contribute?](#)

ENSR Fellow

Prof. dr. Miroslav Rebernik, fellow of ENSR

In December, one of the founders of ENSR, Professor dr. Miroslav Rebernik of the Institute for Entrepreneurship and Small Business Management, informed Jacqueline Snijders that he would be leaving the network. ENSR invited Miroslav to become an ENSR fellow and we are pleased that he accepted this position.

[back to top](#) ↑

Annual ENSR Days 2015

23 and 24 April

The ENSR secretariat has started with the organisation of the **Annual ENSR Days 2015**. On 23 and 24 April, the annual training for ENSR researchers and the directors workshop will be organised. Partners are herewith asked to reserve these days. The event will be organised in Brussels, and members are encouraged to suggest topics to be discussed at the Days.

[back to top](#) ↑

New ENSR partner in Hungary

Kopint-Tárki



On 1 January 2015, Kopint-Tárki will join ENSR and will represent Hungary. The contact person is [Éva Palócz](#).

Over the last few years Kopint-Tárki has participated in a number of European projects such as the projects on Women Entrepreneurs and on Business Licenses and Permits.

For more details, visit Kopint-Tárki's [web site](#).

[back to top](#) ↑

Projects

The economic impact of modern retail on choice and innovation in the EU food sector

VVA (through its partnership in Arcadia International) has recently completed a study for DG COMP of the European Commission on “*the economic impact of modern retail on choice and innovation in the EU food sector*” ([Link to report](#)). The study answers questions such as:

- What does the modern retail landscape look like in Europe?

[back to top](#) ↑

ENSR Thematic Groups

New Skills for New Jobs

At the ENSR days earlier this year 12 ENSR-partners expressed interest in joining a thematic group on “*New Skills for New Jobs*”. Invitations for a kick-off Skype meeting in January is on its way. If additional partners have an interest in joining the group please announce yourself to the secretariat.

[back to top](#) ↑

Thematic group on work opportunities in Latin America

An expression of interest was awarded that was prepared by ikei with ENSR partners for a project in Barbados. Nine teams are selected to prepare a proposal. The ILO project mentioned above includes two SME organisations in Latin America. In addition a proposal have been prepared for the Commission on IPR issues related with EU SMEs exporting to Latin America.

[back to top](#) ↑

ENSR Researchers

We have introduced a new item in the ENSR newsletter in which we give ENSR researchers the possibility to introduce themselves.

- How much choice and how much product innovation are there and how have they evolved over time in each country?
- Does retail concentration affect product innovation in the food supply chain?
- What is the impact of retail concentration on consumer choice?
- Do the relationships between suppliers and retailers affect product innovation and consumer choice?
- What is the impact of retailer private labels?
- What are the drivers and obstacles to product innovation in the food & drinks sector?

The results of the study were presented during a conference held in Brussels on the 2nd of October 2014. The conference was attended by several hundred stakeholders in the EU food, beverage and retail sectors from across the European Union. The presentation slides are [here](#) and the case studies report focussed on specific products can be found [here](#). Please do not hesitate to contact Pierre Hausemer (p.hausemer@vva.it) with any questions you may have about this study.

Food advertisements aimed at children

Panteia has won a tender from the Dutch government for a study on regulation of food advertisement aimed at children in Europe. One of the reasons why Panteia was successful with the tender was the participation of ENSR partner organisations. In cooperation with ENSR partners an overview was prepared of regulations in 10 Member States. The information will be used to adapt Dutch regulation.

[back to top](#) ↑

Good practices of SME organisations

On behalf of the International Labour Organisation (ILO), Panteia and ikei are analysing six SME organisations all over the world to identify best practices that can be used in setting up such organisations.

Initiatives and Measures to Promote Youth Entrepreneurship

Eva Kasperova

Eva is a Researcher at Small Business Research Centre, Kingston University London. Since joining the Centre in 2010, she has collaborated with the ENSR partners on several European projects, including the Eurofound study on restructuring in SMEs and the study on job creation and retention in community care. Eva is also a doctoral researcher with interest in disability and entrepreneurship. Her research looks at how disabled entrepreneurs start and manage a business, and how they build relationships and accomplish legitimacy with important business stakeholders, including customers, employees and finance providers. Eva is a keen cyclist and frequently commutes to work on her bike, whatever the weather. She is also an enthusiastic badminton player and enjoys hiking holidays.

Amber van der Graaf

Amber van der Graaf (1988) has been working at Panteia since early 2012 at the company's international department where she works exclusively on internationally orientated research projects. Amber has had an interdisciplinary academic career, combining the areas of politics, media, international relations and culture. Within Panteia Amber's area of work are relatively diverse. Projects undertaken so far have included job creation in the home care sector in Europe,

ikei (in cooperation with national ENSR partners from Finland, Hungary, Ireland and The Netherlands) has just finished this report for Eurofound. The objectives of the research have been:

- To provide a general overview of youth entrepreneurship in EU-28;
- To research into the main socio-demographic characteristics of young entrepreneurs;
- To identify successful policy measures fostering youth entrepreneurship in the five mentioned Member States with reference to the pillars suggested by Eurofound:
 - Fostering an entrepreneurial mindset, attitudes and culture among young people;
 - Provision of information, advice, coaching and mentoring;
 - Removal of perceived practical barriers and ease access to credit.

This study will serve as an input for a larger Eurofound project called “*Youth entrepreneurship in Europe: Values and characteristics of young entrepreneurs*”.

Women entrepreneurs in Europe

On 1 October, 2014, Eva Heckl from KMU Forschung Austria and Jacqueline Snijders of Panteia, have presented the results of the study on women entrepreneurs in Europe at the WES meeting in Naples. This study was commissioned by DG Enterprise and Industry of the European Commission with an aim of assessing the current state of women entrepreneurs across and beyond Europe, coupled with the goal of developing a one-stop shop e-platform to further promote and facilitate entrepreneurship. The project was carried out in close cooperation with ENSR members.

[back to top](#) ↑

Proposals

Job creation in Born Global enterprises

In October 2014, ikei and Oxford Research submitted a proposal, on behalf of ENSR, for a

assessments of early childhood care and education across the EU, on stimulating inclusive entrepreneurship across EU member states through social security systems, and an EU parliament study on how Europe communicates itself to citizens. Most recently Amber worked on projects inventorying the state of women entrepreneurs in Europe and on collecting good practices on market surveillance of e-commerce. Amber is currently working on a project for the Dutch Government comparing how different EU countries regulate advertising about food when aimed at children. A number of these project are carried out in close cooperation with ENSR. Amber’s hobbies include dressing up and making a fool of herself on stage (read: student theatre). In a similar vein, she enjoys reading (especially the literary classics) and has recently started dabbling in expanding her culinary horizons.

[back to top](#) ↑

Forward

Do you know someone who might be interested in ENSR? Forward this email to a colleague (**please note**, we need to clarify that the sharing of the newsletter concerns only colleagues within one’s own organisation). The Newsletter is not meant for external colleagues.

study on “*Job creation in Born Global enterprises*”, to Eurofound in Dublin. The purpose of the contract is to:

- Statistically quantify and characterise job creation in Born Globals, as far as possible (Lot 1);
- Qualitatively investigate on the motivations for, processes applied and external support needs for job creation in Born Globals (Lot 2).

International comparison collective wage bargaining

In November Panteia prepared a tender for the Dutch government on for an international comparable study on labour collective wage bargaining; 4 ENSR partners are included in the proposal.

National Competitiveness Strategy and Action Plan Consultancy of the Barbados Competitiveness Programme

A consortium composed by ikei, the Small Business Research Centre of Kingston University and some local experts has been shortlisted to present a tender for this project. The primary objective of this consultancy is to prepare a comprehensive national competitiveness strategy and action plan, which would seek to identify priority areas where competitiveness could be improved and the methods that would be required to do so.

Housing in Europe: Preventing inadequate housing-case studies

Several ENSR partners presented tenders to this Eurofound’s call in 3 lots:

- Lot 1: Northern and Western Europe (FI, SE, DK, NL, BE, LU, FR, UK, IE, DE, AT)
- Lot 2: South and South-Eastern Europe (CY, EL, ES, IT, MT, PT, HR, SI)
- Lot 3: Central and Eastern Europe (EE, LT, LV, PL, CZ, SK, HU, BG, RO)

The purpose of the project is to identify and develop case studies of relevant policy

[back to top](#) ↑

Want to contribute?

ENSR member organisations are invited to submit news or articles to the Secretariat for inclusion on the extranet and in the next edition of the newsletter. Contact the [Secretariat](#) if you wish to contribute.

[back to top](#) ↑

measures implemented in the EU-28 Member States which are aimed at preventing or early intervening in low quality housing problems

Framework contract “Economic analysis in support of SME policy”

In the context of this contract a request has been received to conduct a survey among EU SMEs active in Latin America and Latin American SMEs regarding barriers and needs in the field of IPR. Panteia has taken the lead for this tender.

In the context of this framework Oxford Research and Panteia also delivered a proposal for the SME Performance Review 2015. Unfortunately this proposal was not successful.

[back to top](#) ↑

ENSR Secretariat

Web: www.ensr.eu Email: [ENSR Secretariat](mailto:ENSR_Secretariat)

PO Box 7001, 2701 AA Zoetermeer, The Netherlands Phone: +31 79 322 2000; Fax: +31 79 322 2101

Rue Archimède 5, Box 4, 1000 Brussels, Belgium Phone: + 32 2 510 0884 Fax: + 32 2 510 0885