PEROSH position on future research and policy priorities in OSH

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OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY IN EUROPE

PEROSH INTRODUCTION

Founded in 2003 in Roma the network has expended over the past ten years

New agreement 2014 – 2018 concluded in May 2014

12 member institutions from 11 members states = large pool of European OSH experts (> 2000)

Main objectives of the partnership:

- Strengthen cooperation on OSH research and accelerate the generating of knowledge in key areas of OSH (12 joint research projects)
- Disseminate and exchange on OSH issues
PEROSH Coordinator
Daniela Treutlein

Steering Committee
Chair: Dietmar Reinert
(DGUV-IFA, D)
Vice-chair: Paulien Bongers
(TNO, NL)

Scientific Steering group
Chair: Andrew Curran
(HSL, UK)

Executive Committee
Chair, vice-chair, scientific chairman, coordinator

Project leaders and Project members

PEROSH

JOINT COLLABORATION ON RESEARCH PROJECTS

Nanoparticles (dustiness)
Well-being
Ageing

Nano exposure
Safety culture
Survey development and cross culture methodology

OSH evidence-Clearinghouse of Systematic reviews
5 NEW PEROSH PROJECTS

- Strengthen the network’s capacity for forecasting future research priorities.
- Share information on the integration of ambient intelligence solutions for safety and health.
- Develop recommendations for procedures to measure occupational physical activity and workload.
- Broaden the application of health impact assessment models for occupational respiratory diseases.
- Indirect UV radiation at the workplace.

7 CHALLENGES FOR FUTURE EU OSH RESEARCH

The PEROSH group has identified 7 key OSH issues to work on:

1. Sustainable employability to prolong working life
2. Disability prevention and reintegration
3. Psychosocial well-being in a sustainable working organisation
4. Multifactoral genesis of work-related musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs)
5. New technologies as a field of action for OSH
6. Occupational risks related to engineered nanomaterials
7. Safety culture to prevent occupational accidents.
EU LEVEL RESEARCH NEEDS: SELECTED ISSUES

- Analysis of factors enhancing return-to-work
- Development of interventions for changing OSH world (new technologies, Industrie 4.0)
- Link OSH with health care sector on double ageing effect
- Analysis of link between vulnerable groups and psychosocial risks
- Development of risk assessment tools and prevention solutions for mixed exposures
- Cost-effective individual and organisational interventions and measures (regulations, legislation) that extend productivity and working life in good health
- Stimulate the development of innovative e-solutions and VR applications for the design of safe workplaces
- Disseminate and promote a ‘zero accident vision’ and workplace safety culture for enterprises

SAFETY CULTURE: ZERO ACCIDENT VISION (ZAV)

- The risk management approach is often restricted in its impact by limited management commitment.
- When safety and health focus on ‘solving problems’ the motivation to tackle new problems will almost by definition decrease when the major problems are solved.
- When it is felt that the identity of the company does not allow for accidents, the continuous challenge is the pursuit of ‘goal zero’.
- Motivation may increase over time thanks to successes achieved and communicated.
PEROSH POSITION I

3 current position papers to issue future OSH research challenges into European research agenda and programmes:

1. Challenge of Europe in a changing world – inclusive, innovative and reflective societies → The changing world of OSH.
2. Leadership in Enabling and Industrial Technologies → Prevention through design.
3. Health, Demographic Change and Wellbeing → OSH in the context of demographic change.

PEROSH POSITION II

- Regarding 1. The changing world of OSH: Prevention in light of global supply chains, 24/7 economy, new working patterns and non-standard working times and precarious, atypical employment arrangements; workplace innovation.
- Regarding 2. Prevention through design approach for: KETs (advanced materials, nanotechnology, micro- and nano-electronics, biotechnology, photonics), blue and green economy as key source of innovation and industrial competitiveness.
- Regarding 3. OSH in the context of demographic change: Preventing early retirement and prolonging workforce participation, engage with demographically diverse workforce incl. migrants, elderly employees and women; development of diversity-adjusted health promotion and workplace design and ICT-based platform w. certified prevention and safety culture measures for a multinational and multi-ethnic workforce.
FUTURE POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS I

- Monitoring and fostering the implementation of the EU strategic framework 'on the ground' particularly important
- Regarding the key objective under 4.7. of the EU Strategic Framework: consider OSH consequences for EU in upcoming TTIP negotiations

FUTURE POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS II

- EU should take their facilitating role serious in further promoting and financially assisting the research-intensive development and role-out of innovative OSH solutions
- New EU strategic framework contains concrete policy actions but for development of new, innovative solutions on key OSH topics R&D funds such as H2020 should contain more focussed OSH calls regarding upcoming challenges.
- Ideas issued by DG Research on healthy workforce for ageing or European Human Biomonitoring Initiative are welcomed (mentioned by T. Karjalainen DG Research on 12 Nov 2014, EU-OSHA Seminar in Brussels).
MORE INFORMATION ABOUT PEROSH

- Have a look at what we do 😊
- Email: daniela.treutlein@perosh.eu

- PEROSH website & newsletter: [http://www.perosh.eu](http://www.perosh.eu)
- Social media: LinkedIn group PEROSH
- Research challenges publication: [http://www.perosh.eu/p/OSHresearch2020](http://www.perosh.eu/p/OSHresearch2020)