

ILO-EC Conference on:

Inequalities and the world of work:

what role for industrial relations and social dialogue?

Brussels, 23-24 February 2017

NOTE FOR PARTICIPANTS

The purpose of this *Note* is to assist participants in the Conference in familiarizing themselves with the organization and procedures of the Conference, so to facilitate their effective participation, from the outset, in its work.

Venue

The ILO/EC Conference on: *Inequalities and the world of work: what role for industrial relations and social dialogue?* takes place at the **Crowne Plaza Hotel (Le Palace)**, 3 Rue Gineste, 1210 Brussels, Belgium, 23-24 February 2017. Phone number of the Hotel is: +32 2 203 62 00 (www.crowneplazabrussels.be).

The Conference will take place in the Vision & Clarity rooms which are located on the 8th floor of the Hotel.

Registration is from 08h30 to 09h30 on Thursday 23rd February, followed by the Opening session which begins at 09h30. The Conference will end on Friday 24th February at 13:30, followed by a sandwich lunch.

The focus

International debate has recently focused on increased inequalities and on the adverse effects they may have on both social and economic developments. Such income inequality that is at its highest level for the past half century may not only undermine the sustainability of the European social policy, but also put at risk Europe's sustainable recovery. One particular feature of recent reports on inequality (ILO, IMF, OECD; 2015-2016) is that they recognize that the sources of growing inequality emerge from mechanisms in the world of work.

The purpose of this conference therefore will be to investigate the possible role of social dialogue and social partners and more generally industrial relations to reduce inequalities in the world of work.

A particular attention will be paid to the contribution of social partners and social dialogue to reach a better balance between flexibility and security for both the employers and the workers.

The key aim is to identify elements of a response to a number of questions:

- Which countries have succeeded in carrying out the necessary reforms (for instance in the labour market) without generating further inequalities?
- What type of industrial relations systems seem to perform better in this respect?

- What type of policy measures, institutions and actors play a determinant role, in particular the social partners and social dialogue to achieve more balanced outcomes?
- How far could social dialogue help to address the future transformations of the world of work while limiting inequalities?

The scope of this volume goes beyond pay inequalities to address other types of inequality, such as inequality in the distribution (and perhaps payment) of working time; access or re-access to jobs; access to training and career opportunities; and access to social protection or to pensions. It also looks at inequalities that may affect particular groups of workers, such as women or young people, or those under certain types of work arrangements, such as part-time workers, temporary workers and the self-employed.

On the basis of such a comparative and comprehensive assessment of major developments at national level, policy issues will be discussed with the aim to carefully identify ways to develop social dialogue that will help to carry out the necessary transformations without generating further inequalities and social exclusion.

The participants

This conference will be attended by government, trade union and employer representatives and experts of 30 countries (EU28 + FYR of Macedonia and Turkey).

Policy debates will be organized with round table discussions between high-level representatives of Ministries of Labour and Employment, European social partners, and a final policy session with high-level representatives of European and International employers' and trade unions' representatives, the European Commission and the ILO.

Interpretation

Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in English and French.

Accommodation and meals

Accommodation is provided at the **Crowne Plaza Hotel (Le Palace)**, 3 Rue Gineste, 1210 Brussels (see maps in annex 1). Costs of hotel rooms are covered by the organisers with an arrival on Wednesday 22nd or Thursday 23rd February (depending on the participants' schedule of arrival) and with a departure on Friday 24th February (late afternoon), i.e. a maximum of two nights.

Meals will be provided by the organisers as follows:

Thursday 23rd February

- lunch at the restaurant "Le Nouveau Taste" in the Crowne Plaza Hotel.
- dinner outside the Hotel ("Maison des Brasseurs", 10 Grand Place, centre of Brussels, Tél: +32 2 513 64 79, website: <http://www.maison-des-brasseurs.be/>).

Friday 24th February

- buffet sandwich lunch (stand-up) at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, directly outside the Conference room following the closure of the Conference at 13:30.

Access to the Hotel Crowne Plaza

From the airport

By taxi :

Taxis are available outside the Arrivals Hall.

The fare between the airport and the centre is around 50 €(depending on traffic).

By train :

By train, Brussels Airport is less than twenty minutes from the North station (Gare du Nord).

From 06:00 am till nearly midnight, the Airport City Express links the airport with Brussels Midi, Central and North four times an hour.

The train station is located in the basement (level-1) of the terminal building itself.

From train station North, it's a 5-minute walk to the hotel.

At the station exit Rogier/Centre and walk straight ahead to the place Rogier. Cross over the square to reach the hotel.

From the City

By Metro

To get to the hotel take the line 2 or 6 until Rogier. At the place Rogier, cross over the square to reach the hotel.

By Tram

To get to the hotel take the lines 25, 55, 3, 4, 32, 31 until Rogier. At the place Rogier, cross over the square to reach the hotel.

Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us:

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email: EC-ILOCONF2017@ilo.org

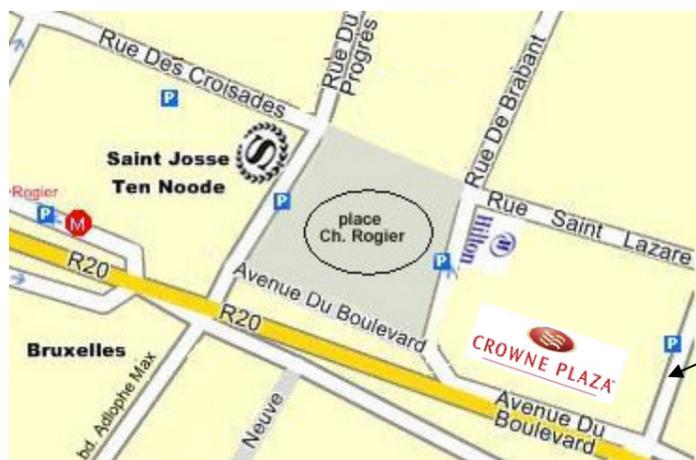
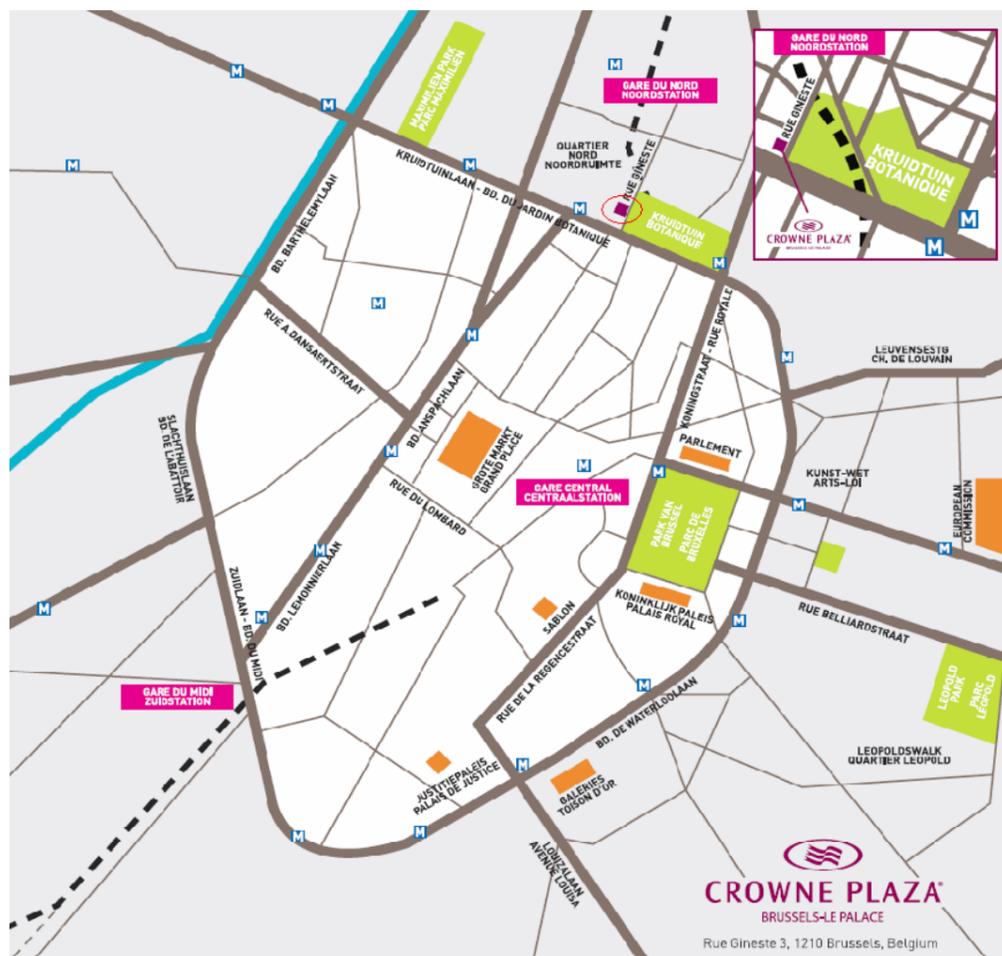
Attachments

- Maps and directions on various transportation to the Hotel Crowne Plaza

Access to the hotel

By car from Brussels Airport to the hotel

1. Head northwest on Leopoldlaan
2. Continue onto A201
3. Take exit Zaventem toward E411
4. Merge onto R22
5. Merge onto E40 via the ramp on the left to Bergen/Namen/Charleroi/Luik/E411/E19/Leuven
6. Take the exit onto E40 toward Brussel
7. Take the exit toward Centrum
8. Keep left at the fork, follow signs for Meiser/centre-centrum and merge onto N23
9. Turn right onto the ramp to R20
10. Slight left onto R20
11. Slight right onto Bolwerklaan/Avenue du Boulevard
12. Take the first right onto Rue Ginest/Gineststraat



Rue Gineste

By Train

- ❖ To get to the hotel take the train until Brussels North Station, take exit Centre/Rogier and walk down the Progès Street until the Rogier Square

By Tram

- ❖ To get to the hotel take the lines 25, 55, 3, 4, 32, 31 until Rogier

From airport

- ❖ There is an express train to North Station every 15 minutes

By Metro

❖ To get to the hotel take the line 2 or 6 until Rogier

