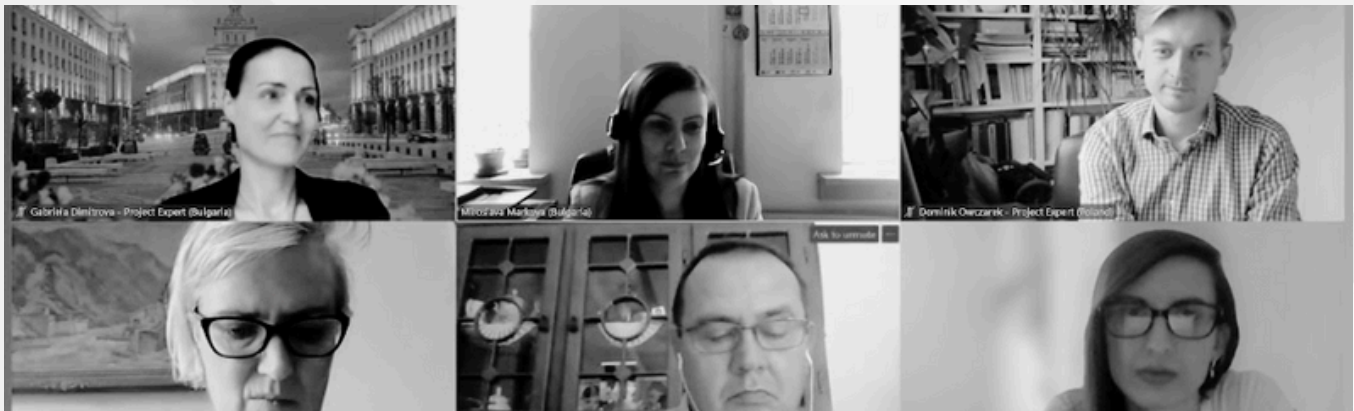




Supporting the Implementation of the
European Industrial Deal with Strengthened
Social Dialogue in European Metal Sector.

2ND NEWSLETTER

SoDi Project



EXPERTS MEETING ON WORK PACKAGE 2 – SOCIAL DIALOGUE IN THE EUROPEAN METAL SECTOR

ONLINE | 11 JULY 2025

WHAT WAS IT ABOUT?

Something important is moving across Europe – and it's happening through dialogue. On 11 July 2025, eight experts from **Poland, Bulgaria, Serbia, North Macedonia, and France** (a perfectly balanced group of 4 women and 4 men) met online to contribute to the next phase of the SoDi project, which is co-funded by the European Union.



THE GOAL?

To lay the groundwork for understanding how social dialogue can support the successful and fair implementation of the European Industrial Deal in the metal sector – a sector at the heart of Europe's green and digital transformation.



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WHAT WAS DISCUSSED?

A Common Toolbox for Common Challenges

The meeting opened with an overview of the research methodology that will be used across all participating countries. Four key tools will guide the investigation:

- An online survey to map training and capacity-building needs
- National focus groups to stimulate group reflection
- Individual in-depth interviews for deeper, personal insights
- And thorough desk research drawing on both national and European sources

WHAT DOES SOCIAL DIALOGUE MEAN TODAY?

A lively and open brainstorming session followed. Experts reflected on the meaning and role of social dialogue today – especially in a time of rapid change.

Words like partnership, cooperation, democracy, and social peace quickly surfaced. But also: adaptation, green transition, digitalization, and just transformation. Because improving working conditions is no longer just a matter of negotiation – it's a matter of building shared futures.

FROM THEORY TO PRACTICE

The conversation then turned to the practical side of the research:

- How can we make the surveys simple and inclusive?
- How do we ensure the interviews and focus groups reflect the real diversity of national contexts?
- What's the best way to involve stakeholders – meaningfully, not just formally?
- And above all, how do we balance numbers with stories – statistics with human experience?

What's next?

The next steps involve transforming the common research framework into action across all participating countries. Each partner will soon launch national surveys aimed at collecting broad input from workers, employers, and institutions. These will be followed by focus groups and interviews, giving voice to a wide range of experiences and perspectives. All national teams will then prepare a national report summarizing their findings. These reports will feed into a European-level summary, which will serve as the foundation for the project's policy recommendations. To ensure broad accessibility, the final output will be translated into all partner languages.



A FINAL THOUGHT TO CARRY FORWARD

"Structured cooperation among trade unions, employers, and public authorities is crucial to ensure just and sustainable industrial transformation in Europe."



Stay connected and be part of the change!

The SoDi project is building a European industry that listens, adapts, and includes.

And this is just the beginning.



Find out more:



Project website



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This activity is part of the SoDi project – Supporting the Implementation of the European Industrial Deal with Strengthened Social Dialogue in the European Metal Sector.



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