

Short description of the project

Facing the processes of the digitalisation in the economy and industry it can be assumed that the increasing interconnectedness, the changed cooperation of man and machine, of machine and machine, of production and service through information and communication technologies and the Internet will have far-reaching consequences for the world of business, employment and industrial relations. Against this background, the thematic subjects of "digitalisation and technologization" were analysed by looking at four exemplarily selected countries and regions (Germany / Baden-Württemberg, Italy / Lombardy, Spain / Catalonia and Sweden / West Sweden) with three elements: 1. scientific expertise, 2. communication and 3. transfer of results. Central here was the scientific expertise with surveys on the regional level. In addition to the organisations involved in the project, the results of the project are made available for a broad public, in particular for employee representatives, trade unionists, employers 'and employers' organisations and relevant stakeholders. Based on the three levels of action the most important activities of "Smart Factory" included:

- Comparative and dialogue-oriented transnational research approach;
- qualitative expert interviews;
- realisation of a delphi online survey with several rounds, where scenarios were created;
- transnational coordination meetings of the project partners and dialogue-oriented final conference with speakers;
- communication and transnational networking of the project partners;
- Mainstreaming of the final results (online and book publication)

Main goals of the project

Against the background of the digitalisation processes and the associated new digital concepts of production (Industry 4.0), the aim of the project "Smart Factory" in the four countries and regions (Germany / Baden-Württemberg, Italy / Lombardy, Spain / Catalonia and Sweden / West Sweden) was to contribute to the anticipation and management of digitalisation and technology. This should be done by identifying and providing subject-specific expertise and project, as well as sensitising social actors to take a comparative perspective. In line with this were among others the expectations and goals that through the three elements of the project "Smart Factory" (1. scientific expertise, 2. communication and 3. transfer of results) would not only support the subject-related discussion, but also:

- an intensive transnational exchange of information and experience between the participating partners on the basis of a scientifically founded discourse;
- the networking of the participating actors is promoted;
- a high degree of dissemination and transfer of results is realised through the transfer of results and the book publication

Central results of the project

The three elements: 1. scientific expertise, 2. communication and 3. transfer of results,

enabled an intensive transnational exchange of information and experience on the subject of the "digitalisation and technologization" of the economy between the participating policy partners of the four countries/regions. Pursuing a comparative, conversational and transnational research approach in the preparation of scientific expertise, the following key results of the action should be highlighted:

- By carrying out surveys in the individual countries/regions by the field partners, the scientific expertise has a special transregional or transnational dimension;
- Developing and deepening existing transnational partnership interaction networks and communication structures between the project partners;
- Preparation and dissemination of the work results of the project in the form of online publications via the Internet platform [sf-eu.net] and published results in a book. By this, the results of "Smart Factory" will be made available to a wide audience and to reach the target groups such as employee representatives, shop stewards, trade unionists, business and employer organisations and relevant stakeholders from society, business, academics and politics. The project thus achieved a high degree of dissemination of information and results on the subject of "digitalisation and technologization" in a European, transnational perspective;
- By a dialogical orientation, it was realised that actors from different practical backgrounds of practice and different countries discussed and collaborated with one another. This allowed stakeholders to generate practical knowledge on a scientific basis, to engage in a direct and personal exchange, thus enabling mutual learning.