



BOOSTING EDUCATION AND TRAINING ON SOCIAL RIGHTS

The European Social Charter:

- Main treaty of the COE together with the ECHR
- The issue of the protection of social rights still at a crossroads
- Signed in Turin on 18 October 1961, Revised Social Charter in 1996: Added new rights and incorporate the basic contents of the 1961 Charter and its Protocols
- Only 4 States have not yet ratified the Charter: Liechtenstein, Monaco, San Marino and Switzerland

The Rights guaranteed by the Charter: rights concerning all individuals in their daily lives

31 substantive articles of the Revised Charter cover a broad range of “social rights”

Some examples:

- **Employment rights**
- **Social protection** (right to social security in its various branches, right to social services and protection of specific groups of population- such as children- the case of migrants minors; also protection of pensioners and old age; protection against poverty...)
- **Right to housing:** right to sufficient level of housing (case of social housing in Ireland); evictions, emergency situations, etc.
- Protection of **the right to education:** free primary and secondary education; access to training...
- Protection of **children and young persons** (protection in general, right to education, protection if migrants, family, ...)
- Protection of **health:** access to medical attention; protection of maternity; prevention of risks at work, etc.
- Protection against **poverty and social exclusion**

Background for enhancing social education

- Committee of Ministers' decision of 15 March 2023
- The reform of the Charter
- Recommendation on the **promotion of education and training** on the CoE social rights framework
- Increasing visibility & expanding the social rights and ESC aspects of the HELP Programme
- Increasing cooperation activities to assist member States in the social rights field



On the need for training

- Committee of Ministers' decision of 15 March 2023
- The reform of the Charter
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- Increasing visibility & expanding the social rights and ESC aspects of the HELP Programme
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The Survey Questionnaire

- Addressed to: **GC** members and observers, **NTIs**, **BAs** & other stakeholders involved in the development/implementation of policies and regulatory framework on social rights issues
- Trace the variety and level of training programmes already provided nationally
- Identify needs at national level to provide training on relevant topics













The Survey Questionnaire

- 45 responses from institutions/bodies in thirty-two 32 Members States of the CoE
- Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom.

		Answers	Ratio
...is involved in policy making on topics related to social and economic rights (e.g. Ministries, Local and Regional Authorities)		14	31.11 %
...is involved in implementation of policies/frameworks/regulations related to social and economic rights or in supervision of their implementation (e.g. NHRIs, Ombudspersons, Specialised Agencies, Inspectorates etc.)		5	11.11 %
...provides training to specific groups of professionals (e.g. JTIs, BAs, training institutes of public administration)		30	66.67 %
Other (please specify below)		4	8.89 %







The Survey Questionnaire

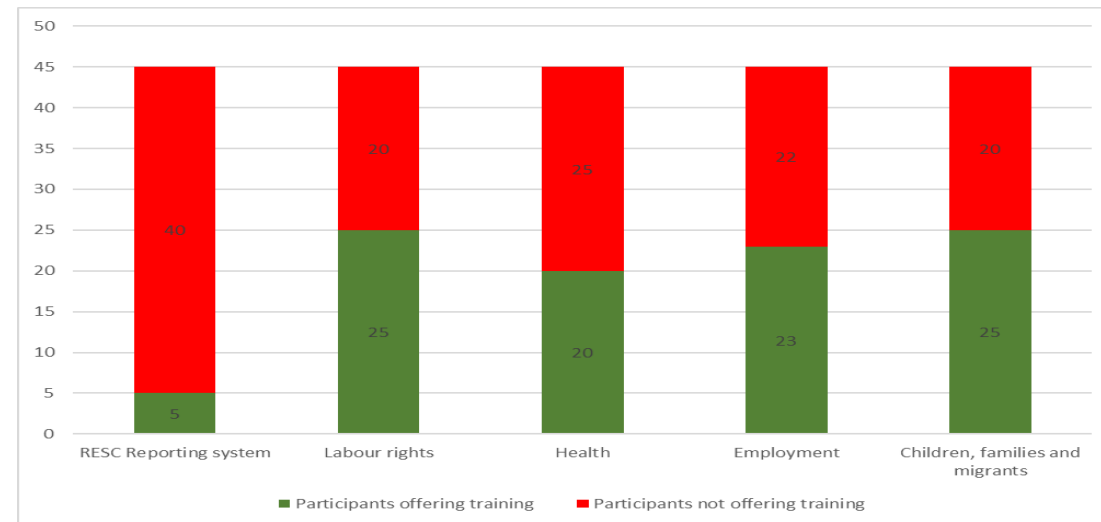
		Answers	Ratio
Judges		19	42.22 %
Prosecutors		15	33.33 %
Lawyers		17	37.78 %
Law enforcement officers		5	11.11 %
Public agents (civil servants)		13	28.89 %
Labour inspectors		10	22.22 %
Social work professionals		9	20 %
Education professionals		6	13.33 %
CSOs/NGOs		7	15.56 %
Other (please specify below)		8	17.78 %
No Answer		0	1. %

The Survey Questionnaire

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Existing educational programs and initiatives on the CoE social rights framework provided in a systematic way at national level

Topics		Answers	Ratio
The RESC reporting system and collective complaint procedures		5	11.11 %
Labour rights		25	55.56 %
Health, social security and social protection		20	44.44 %
Employment, training and equal opportunities		23	51.11 %
Children, families and migrants		25	55.56 %
No Answer		11	24.44 %















The Survey Questionnaire

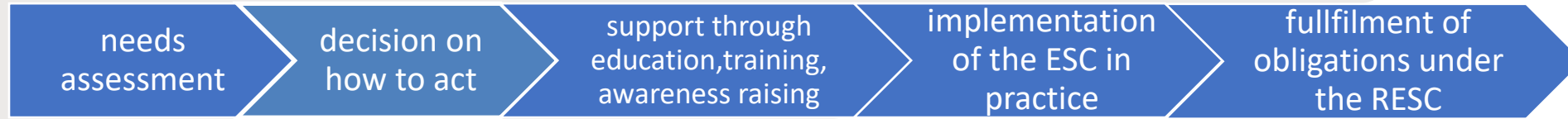
Identifying the needs and desirable areas of action

Strong need to benefit from further
training activities (>90% !)

Both on the **procedural** and **normative**
social rights framework

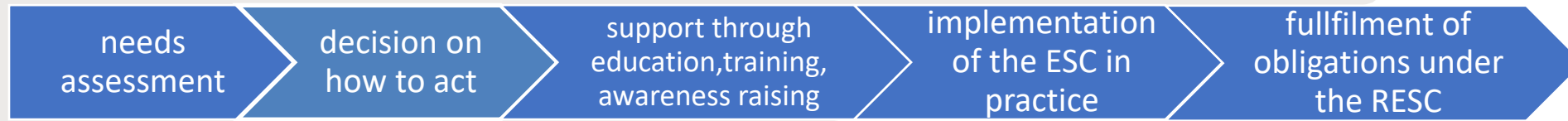
Training topics		Answers	Ratio
The RESC reporting system and collective complaint procedures		25	55.56 %
Employment and rights of workers		23	51.11 %
The right to housing		12	26.67 %
The right to protection of health		21	46.67 %
The right to education		10	22.22 %
The right to social protection and welfare		25	55.56 %
Social protection of elderly people		20	44.44 %
Social, legal and economic protection of children and young persons		25	55.56 %
Rights of persons with disabilities		26	57.78 %
Social rights of migrants		21	46.67 %
The protection of social and economic rights in Europe - the European Social Charter and the European Committee of Social Rights		28	62.22 %
No Answer		4	8.89 %

Conclusions and the way forward



- **ensure university education and professional training** in the system of the RESC in line with the **needs** and **expectations** of the different categories of stakeholders and institutions which are relevant in the field.
- where such education or training already exists: **enhance their effectiveness** by ensuring that a large variety of professional categories have **easy access** to and are offered quality and targeted training.
- encourage the use of the **most appropriate learning and training methods**, taking into account the national context and the specific needs and expectations of the targeted groups.
- The use of the HELP courses and Modules (already existent or to be developed) as well as of the HELP methodology should be encouraged in this regard by integrating them in the regular educational/professional training curricula of target audiences.

Conclusions and the way forward



- Attention should be paid to the **initial** and **in service** training of judges, prosecutors, lawyers and justice professionals in the wide sense, law enforcement personnel, labour inspectors social work professionals as well as public officials dealing with social rights issues.
- Given the high count of the audiences involved, a **systemic and scalable approach** should be provided for access to relevant training on RESC matters, with **HELP courses** having the potential to secure the effective implementation of such an endeavour in a cost-efficient and quality-driven manner.
- Elaboration of a **roadmap** for the development and implementation of such courses based on the priorities identified in this report. With adequate funding secured, the initiative could materialise through the creation of relevant HELP model courses which can serve as basis for the educational/professional training curricula of target audiences and can be translated, adapted and implemented following the priorities identified.

Thank you for your attention!!