
The EN RLMM publishes an Anthology of papers annually. The topic for the next call is “The Relevance of Artificial Intelligence in the Digital and Green Transformation of Regional and Local Labour Markets across Europe. Perspectives on Employment, Training, Placement and Social Inclusion.” Several papers from the Anthology will be presented at the Annual Meeting of EN RLMM that will take place on 15th – 16th September 2021 in Sardinia, being the 17th in a series of successful conferences on Regional Labour Market Monitoring.

The “Decade of Action” to achieve sustainable development requires a appropriate functionality of regional and local labour markets as primary players of the digital and green transformation towards this shared strategic goal. The digital and green transformation of regional and local labour markets in Europe sets a fundamental orientation towards the future, which at the same time has to cope with existing challenges, some of which have been intensified by the pandemic.

The main concern will therefore be to ensure the functionality of the labour market and at the same time to support continued growth in employment and to strengthen the labour market’s social integration power for many target groups that are marginalised, i.e. in the sense of social inclusion and social protection. Artificial intelligence (AI) tools are likely to play a paramount role in all of these processes.

In this anthology, the functionalities of AI tools for the improvement of labour market functions, especially in respect to fair and socially sustainable work are explored. It is necessary to systematically specify where there is a need for action and how AI could contribute to solving them. Already known AI solutions should be taken into account and existing gaps should be identified. It is also of interest how the Public Employment Services (PES) could use AI tools to form their “new” role as regional and local nodes for labour market monitoring and consulting of labour market actors.

With the contributions of the anthology, key points for the application of AI in the labour market and in fair and socially sustainable work are to be identified in order to sensitise labour market actors and labour market policy to these possibilities.

The following are suggested as fields in which challenges exist and in which AI could deliver solutions:

• Career orientation for young people and target groups furthest from the labour market
• Modernisation of the content and structures of vocational education and training
• New innovative learning methods for disadvantaged groups in the labour market
• Change of work processes and adaptations of the skills of employees
• Relief from employment through optimisation processes based on AI (health protection)
• Remote working and learning based on AI
• Recruitment supported by AI
• Facilitate job changes, upskilling with the help of AI
• Monitoring regional and local labour market developments
• Consulting regional and local labour market actors
• Developing regional and local labour market strategies
• Monitoring precariousness, social fragmentation and exclusion, especially in the light of deskilling, digitalisation, and the green transformation.

If you would like to submit a paper, please send the preliminary title of the contribution and a short abstract to Jenny Kipper (jenny@jennykipper.de) by 20th December 2021. The full papers should be submitted to Jenny latest by 15th March 2022. If you have any further questions, please contact Jenny. We look forward to your contributions.