

**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**  
DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion

Skills  
The Director

Brussels,  
EMPL/E2/AL (2016)

**Subject:** Reply to your joint letter dated the 30<sup>th</sup> March 2016, as a response to ESCO consultation by the social partners.

Dear Ms Argutyán-Kahlmeyer,  
Dear Mr Lefebvre,

Thank you for your letter and the attention you are devoting to ESCO.

Since the outset of the ESCO project, the Commission services established a governance structure to consult stakeholders, including the European Social Partners, on specific technical and strategic issues related to the development of ESCO.

In particular, the development of the taxonomy for the ESCO occupational profiles was carried out in 11 sectors of the economy from 2012-2015 through Sectoral Reference Groups, constituted of sectorial experts from across Europe. Building on lessons learned from this process, in October 2015 the Commission launched the ESCO Online Consultation to receive expert feedback on the draft content for ESCO in the remaining 16 sectors, among which the chemical industry. From the preliminary results of the online consultation for the chemical industry, 96 of the 104 occupational profiles have been reviewed by sectoral experts. In total, out of 44 experts who registered to participate in the online consultation, 33 experts from 16 European Member States actively participated including:


- representatives from ECEG,
- several national members of the European Chemical Industry Council (CEFIC),
- employment services,
- education institutes (both higher education and vocational education and training), and
- companies (employers/recruiters) in the field.

During this online consultation, the Commission services established a productive cooperation with the European Chemical Employers Group (ECEG). In total, ECEG commented on ten occupational profiles and following the proposal the Commission services will create two new occupations for the chemical industry. Unfortunately, the

Commission services did not benefit from a similar contribution on the chemical industry during the online consultation.

The success of ESCO lies on the co-operation between all players in the market including social partners. Both ECEG and industriAll are key partners to ensure the proper development, dissemination and continuous updating of ESCO after the publication of ESCO v.1. We would be most grateful to discuss your work in the chemical industry and on the Framework Agreement on Competence profiles and reflect how these can contribute to the ESCO occupational profiles for the chemical industry.

We trust this invitation can build the bases for a constructive cooperation. I would like to invite to contact Martin Le Vrang ([Martin.LE-VRANG@ec.europa.eu](mailto:Martin.LE-VRANG@ec.europa.eu)), project leader, to organize the meeting.



Detlef Eckert