

Measurement approaches of the Just Transition. The Polish experience in Silesia.

Edited by industriAll Europe.

The establishment of a European-level observatory for the Just Transition, aimed at anticipating the spillover effects of the Green and Digital Transition, stands as a key proposition from industriAll Europe. Our [Just Transition Manifesto](#) underscores the immense importance of such an institution in providing information on skill shortages, re-skilling and upskilling initiatives, monitoring Just Transition (JT) funds, and the social conditionalities they entail. Additionally, it emphasizes the active involvement of trade unions in the planning process to ensure that no one is left behind.

In this context, observatories have been progressively established at the national, regional, and company levels. The European Commission has recently released a [toolkit](#), focusing on supporting Just Transition Fund regions in monitoring and evaluating their results. The document outlines the monitoring system proposed by the Just Transition Fund Regulation, provides an overview of the initial steps taken by some regions, explores European methods of measurement, and offers frameworks with a strong emphasis on social justice indicators for further inspiration.

The toolkit analyses various cases, including the Spanish Institute for Just Transition, the Greek Experience in Western Macedonia, the Portuguese Observatory of the Just Transition in Alentejo Litoral, and the Polish experience with the Regional Observatory of the Transition Process in Silesia. Furthermore, the European Commission has introduced a measurement system for Just Transition frameworks, considering economic, social, environmental, and governance dimensions. Particularly noteworthy are the approaches using Social Justice Indicators and the Leave-no-one-behind score (LNOB).

industriAll Europe has received in-depth information from our members regarding the Silesian Regional Observatory for the Transition Process (ROTP), established in 2022. The first phase concluded in October 2023, and a second phase was initiated in January 2024. The institute focuses on four core tasks: researching professional re-skilling and upskilling of employees, engaging stakeholders through workshops, operating a transition laboratory for developing model solutions for the Just Transition, and implementing adopted measures.

The establishment of the observatory has been warmly welcomed by KADRA and ZZG Union, both actively collaborating with it. Noteworthy activities include a research project conducted by the Central Mining Institute-National Research Institute (GIG) and the Miners' Trade Union ZZG. KADRA unionists supported GIG in research, participating in 8 focus groups studying mining sub-regions of the Silesian Voivodeship, and providing support for in-depth interviews.

ROTP involves numerous stakeholders in the transition process, including regional authorities, employers, trade unions, green NGOs, universities, research institutions, and economic agencies. Leveraging the experience gained through ROTP, ZZG union has prepared an analysis focusing on the role of trade union leaders in the process of changes, attitudes, and expectations related to mine closures. Simultaneously, Trade Unions (TUs) actively participate in [the Regional Committee for the Just Transition in Silesia](#) (Social Dialogue process) alongside three union umbrellas (KADRA, ZZG, and Solidarność).