

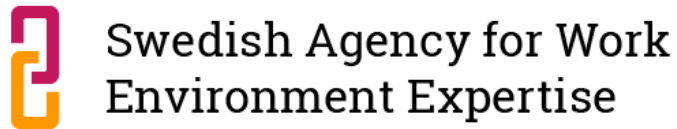
Lessons Learned

How Different European Countries
Addressed Occupational Health
and Safety Challenges During the
COVID-19 Pandemic



European Perspective

Austria, France, Germany, Netherlands, Poland, Sweden, UK





Introduction

- COVID-19: global societal challenge
- Purpose: analyze workplace safety & infection control
- Focus: Occupational Safety & Health (OSH)
- The report does not cover broader public health



Method & Material

- PEROSH collaboration
- Seven national case studies
- Different contexts & data availability
- Comparative approach



Pandemic & Work

- Early uncertainty: limited virus knowledge
- Workplaces = key sites for both risk & protection
- OSH became part of infection strategy



Areas of Inquiry

1. Social context at pandemic onset
2. Workplace measures
3. Effects of measures
4. Retrospective conclusions
5. Lessons learned



Social Context

- Different national responses (lockdowns vs. no lockdowns)
- Division of responsibilities varied
- National actors & institutions played key roles

Workplace Measures

- Hygiene & protective equipment
- Remote work (uneven adoption)
- Strengths vs. weaknesses of strategies

Effects of Measures

Long-term changes in working life:

- Remote work
- Digitalisation
- Stronger OSH integration



Lessons Learned

- Preparedness & flexibility crucial
- OSH–infection control link reinforced
- Need for international knowledge-sharing

- Apply lessons to future crises
- Strengthen European collaboration
- PEROSH as knowledge hub & strategy support



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