

LOHNUNGLEICHHEIT -

Fakten, Daten, Analysen

26. Wissenschaftliches Kolloguium

gemeinsam mit der Deutschen Statistischen Gesellschaft am 23. und 24. November 2017 in Wiesbaden

Kurzfassung (Stand: 20.11.2017): Wage inequalities in the EU

Ines Kolakovic

studied macroeconomics at the University of Zagreb (Faculty of Economics & Business Zagreb) and started career as a statistician in the Croatian Bureau of Statistics in Labour Market Statistics Department. She joined the European Commission, Eurostat, Unit F3: Labour market and lifelong learning in 2016 as a seconded national expert. She is currently in charge of structural statistics on earnings and labour costs.

The Structure of Earnings Survey (SES) is a large enterprise survey conducted every four years in the Member States of the European Union (EU). It provides comparable information at EU level on the relationships between the level of earnings, individual characteristics of the employees (such as gender, age, occupation, length of service, educational level) and their employer (economic activity, size of the enterprise etc.). This data collection is based on EU legislation and SES data become available approximately 2 years after the end of the reference period. They represent a rich micro-data source for European policy-making and research purposes. Latest available data are for reference year 2014.

As the new vintage became available, Eurostat used this opportunity to explore differences and inequalities in earnings within each national economy and across the EU. In particular, disparities within countries have been analysed using the median gross earnings, the lowest (D1) and highest (D9) deciles as well as the interdecile ratio (D9/D1). Another concept used in the analysis is the notion of low-wage earners, defined as those employees earning two thirds or less of the national median gross hourly earnings in that particular country.

Finally, Eurostat will present results of analysis of determinants of earnings. Based on SES 2014 country data it was analysed if level of education, age, occupation and economic activity of an employer contribute to determining level of earnings in each economy. According to calculated coefficients of determination for each of the variables typology of EU MSs can be established according to different frameworks for setting earnings. Each of the frameworks can be explained by SES variables.