

Esther Lynch

Esther Lynch was elected as ETUC Confederal Secretary at the Paris Congress in 2015. She has extensive trade union and legal experience at an Irish, European and International level and has played a key role in developing trade union strategies in Ireland and internationally. Her trade union experience began when she was elected as a shop steward in the 1980s. Before coming to the ETUC, she was the Legislation and Social Affairs Officer with the Irish Congress of Trade Unions (ICTU).

Within the ETUC, Esther has a wide-ranging portfolio with responsibility for collective bargaining and wage policy, public procurement, fundamental and trade union rights, labour law, and health and safety. She leads ETUC interventions on the European Pillar of Social Rights, the European Commission's Undeclared Work Platform and the ILO Future of Work Initiative.

She manages the work of three ETUC Committees along with the Legal Strategy Group, NETLEX the ETUC Labour Law Expert Group. She is currently spearheading a major campaign for a pay rise in Europe.

She oversees the political work of the ETUI in respect of Health and Safety and she has led a successful campaign on workplace cancers that led to a Covenant between Business Europe, the Commission and the ETUC.

Work experience

2015 -

European Confederation of Trade Unions (ETUC), Confederal Secretary

1993 - 2015

Irish Congress of Trade Unions (ICTU),

- 2007-2015, Legislation and Social Affairs Officer, part of the senior team,
- 2000- 2007, Industrial Officer with responsibility for Equality
- 1993 - 2000, Social Policy Officer with responsibility for managing National Network of Unemployed Centres

1991-1993

Irish Department of Social Welfare, Political Advisor to Minister for Social Affairs, Joan Burton TD

1989 -1991

St Patrick's College, Maynooth, Coordinator for the Diploma Programme in estate management studies

Other experience

2000 - 2015

International Labour Organisation, worker delegate for Ireland; elected by the workers' electoral college to the drafting committee for a number of international instruments. Coordinated the workers' group in complaints against the UK and Ireland at the Committee on the Application of Standards.

2013 -

International Centre for Trade Union Rights, Executive member

2014 -

National University of Ireland, Maynooth, Senior Adjunct Lecturer in law

2014 -

Council of the Bar in Ireland, Attorney General's nominee to the Disciplinary

2008 - 2013

Health and Safety Authority of Ireland, Board member

2000 - 2006

Board Joint Equality Council, Chair electricity supply

2005 - 2008

Private Security Authority, Board member

Education

2000 - 2004

Dublin Institute of Technology

BSc Management and Law

Languages

English: mother tongue