

2010.es

2010.es

2010.es

eu eu eu



MINISTERIO  
DE TRABAJO  
E INMIGRACIÓN



## PRESIDENCIA ESPAÑOLA DE LA UNIÓN EUROPEA

*eu* 2010.es

**“Conferencia europea  
de contribución a la evaluación  
a medio término de  
la estrategia comunitaria  
de salud y seguridad en el trabajo  
2007-2012”**

Barcelona, jueves 22 y viernes 23 de abril de 2010

**MR. ANDRÁS BÉKÉS**

**“European conference  
for the mid-term review  
of the community strategy  
2007-2012  
on health and safety  
at work”**

Barcelona, Thursday 22nd and Friday 23rd April 2010

2010.es

2010.es

2010.es

eu eu eu

# **The Road to Perfection**

**brief mid-term thoughts**

**András Békés**

**Hungary**

# Community Strategy

- Quantitative: 25% reduction
- Qualitative: all the rest  
„steps should be taken to...”
- Reduce administrative burdens:  
reducing paperwork or  
is *being regulated*  
an administrative burden?

# Answers from 12 New MS

- ◆ Steps taken, as always 😊
- ◆ Accidents reduced
  - ▶ 5 MS: relative per workers: 9-43%
  - ▶ 7 MS: absolute numbers only
- ◆ Illnesses reduced?
  - ▶ No available data or
  - ▶ No reliable data or
  - ▶ No reduction

# Case Study: Hungary 1.

- ◆ **Illegal economy 25-30%**
- ◆ **55 SME'S per 1000 inhabitants,  
EU average ~ 40**
- ◆ **Inspection reaches 5% per year**
- ◆ **Accidents gradually reduced  
2004 to 2009: 6.1 to 4.9**
- ◆ **Occupational illnesses  
2004 to 2008: 675 to 280 (!)**

# **Case Study: Hungary 2.**

**National OSH Program 2001-2006  
Adopted by Parliament**

**Chief priority:**

**a separate insurance system for  
occupational accidents and diseases where  
contributions are proportional to risks**

**Result: nothing for 5 years.**

**No clear reason given by any of the players.**

# Case Study: Hungary 3.

- ◆ **New policy „in preparation” for three years and counting**
- ◆ **Inter-departmental ping-pong**
- ◆ **Parliamentary elections in progress, imminent change in government**
- ◆ **Priorities: crisis management, budget, employment, economy**
- ◆ **No political interest in OSH**

# Occupational Illnesses 1.

- ◆ **Number of reported cases decreasing for decades**
- ◆ **General health not improving**
- ◆ **Very heavy under-reporting suspected**

# Occupational Illnesses 2.

- ◆ **Illicit labour**
- ◆ **Shorter periods in jobs**  
→ later illness not associated
- ◆ **Move to services**  
→ psycho-social and ergonomic problems
- ◆ **Occupational health services**  
paid and controlled by employer
- ◆ **Workplace factors not considered**  
and occupational illnesses not recognized by doctors
- ◆ **Medical students get 8 hours of training**  
in occupational medicine in 6 years

# Distorted Values

- Short-term thinking  
(workers, employers)
- Governments:
  - Economy first
  - Narrow event horizon

*This slide was written in 2004*

**Thank you  
for your attention**