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6 Thirsiou, 104 45 Athens

T.: +30 210 8200100

E.: info@elinyae.gr

www.elinyae.gr

Interview



Prof. Ioannis Chatzigeorgiou

Rector, National Technical University of Athens (NTUA)

Professor, School of Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering

Articles

☆ **Occupational Accidents in the Greek Extractive Industry: Statistical Analysis and Prevention Priorities Based on EMNE Data, 2015-2024.** By I.E. Zevgolis, I. Polydorou, M.Vaidani

☆ **The Evolution of European Chemicals Policy: From Classical Toxicology to Modern Chemical Safety.** By A. Nikolaou

☆ **Occupational Health and Safety of Delivery Riders, Couriers and Field Employees Using Two-Wheeled Vehicles: Research Findings.** By Th. Koukoulaki, Dr P. Georgiadou, K. Kapsali



Under the Scientific Auspices of
NATIONAL TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF ATHENS

5th Hellenic Conference

on Occupational
Health and Safety

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ELINYAE

HELLENIC INSTITUTE FOR OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

**23 & 24
November 2026**



Megaron Athens International
Conference Centre

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About our English Edition

This publication marks the third issue of the Health & Safety at Work magazine to be published in English, reflecting ELINYAE's continued commitment to international outreach, knowledge sharing, and the promotion of occupational safety and health beyond national borders.

This edition provides a selected overview of ELINYAE's activities, initiatives, research, collaborations, and developments over the past four months. Through this publication, ELINYAE seeks to strengthen communication with its international partners and networks, contribute to the exchange of knowledge and good practices, and highlight issues of common interest to the occupational safety and health community across Europe and beyond.

While this English edition presents selected highlights, the full content of the magazine—including articles, interviews, news, analyses, and additional features—is available in the Greek edition.

Collaboration as a Prerequisite for Prevention

In the field of occupational safety and health, every major change reminds us of a fundamental truth: no one can protect the world of work alone.

Governments need knowledge from the field. Businesses need clear rules and practical tools. The scientific community needs the experience of those who live and work in real workplace conditions every day.

We witnessed this during the COVID-19 pandemic, when scientists, public authorities, employers and workers had to act together, often under unprecedented circumstances. We are experiencing it again today as the climate crisis increasingly affects workplaces through heat stress and extreme weather events. We see it as well in the rise of artificial intelligence, which opens new avenues for prevention while simultaneously transforming how work is organized, managed and assessed.

Different challenges, but a common requirement: to collaborate before a crisis emerges, not only after it has already unfolded.

International experience demonstrates that meaningful solutions arise when scientific knowledge meets the realities of the workplace. They emerge when social dialogue is not merely used afterwards to endorse decisions already taken but instead contributes from the outset to shaping them.

This is where the distinctive role of ELINYAE lies. As an institution representing the social partners and serving as an advisor to the State, it connects scientific evidence with the needs of workers and businesses. It brings workplace experience into the institutional dialogue and helps ensure that policies are not only scientifically sound, but also understandable, practical and sustainable over time.

Its European and international presence is equally important. As a member of PER-OSH, the European network of 15 occupational safety and health institutes, and through its participation in EUROSHNET and various European projects, ELINYAE exchanges knowledge and good practices with organizations across Europe. The value of these partnerships is straightforward: they enable us to learn more quickly, avoid mistakes and contribute Greek experience to the broader European dialogue.

This is precisely the discussion we aim to foster at the 5th National Conference on Occupational Safety and Health, which will take place on 23-24 November 2026 at the Athens Concert Hall (Megaron Mousikis Athinon). The conference theme, “A Strategic Priority for All,” reflects the essence of the event: bringing together the scientific community, public authorities, social partners and working people to listen to one another and explore solutions that can be effectively implemented.

Prevention does not begin with an accident.

It begins with collaboration.

It begins with the decision to listen, to share knowledge and to assume responsibility collectively. Collaboration is not merely a complementary element of prevention; it is the very means through which prevention becomes a reality.



by Alexandra Lefopoulou*

Ioannis Chatjigeorgiou

No engineering project can succeed if it fails to protect people



Ioannis Chatjigeorgiou, rector of the National Technical University of Athens, on where prevention belongs in engineering education, what artificial intelligence can and cannot do, and how a new partnership could turn research, data and workplace experience into safety standards.

On a construction site, in a machine shop or on a production line, the engineer does more than calculate. In Ioannis K. Chatjigeorgiou's words, the engineer is "the leader of the operation", required to combine scientific knowledge with judgement, responsibility and empathy.

Speaking to the e-magazine of the Hellenic Institute for Occupational Health and Safety (ELINYAE), the rector of the

National Technical University of Athens (NTUA) draws on his academic career and his own experience as a workshop manager in the marine and industrial sector to explain how prevention travels from the lecture hall to the workplace. He discusses the limits of artificial intelligence, the case for giving prevention a stronger place in the education of young engineers, and the possibilities opened up by the partnership between NTUA and ELINYAE. A single position runs through his answers: technology advances; responsibility remains human.

*Interview by Alexandra Lefopoulou**

- Prof Chatjigeorgiou, at the event marking NTUA's cooperation with ELINYAE, you said: "An engineer who designs without considering the person who will work in that environment has not done

the job properly." Can a project be considered successful if it meets construction and operational specifications but does not adequately protect the people who build, operate and maintain it?

Ioannis Chatjigeorgiou. The answer is self-evident: categorically, no. No engineering project can be considered successful unless it is human-centred. This concerns not only the health and safety of workers, users and visitors, but also the comfort in use that every project should provide, whether it is public or private, and whether it serves a small group or a much wider professional or social community.

Our civilisation is founded on a universal ideal: the protection of human life and health. Technology is the means and should serve that end. There can be no compliance with construction and operational specifications without the assurance of safe operation. By definition, safe operation includes the protection of workers, operators, users and, ultimately, people.

- At the Delphi Economic Forum, you spoke about the skills of tomorrow. What core knowledge and skills in Occupational Health and Safety does every young engineer need, regardless of discipline? Should prevention have a stronger, cross-disciplinary place in engineering curricula?

Ioannis Chatjigeorgiou. Within the comprehensive and demanding programmes of study offered by NTUA, a young engineer can inevitably acquire no more than the rudiments of Occupational Health and Safety. In most cases, this comes through a single course, educational visits or a work placement, when students often encounter for the first time the physical reality of the field they are studying and of the professional work that will follow.

The substantive knowledge and skills are gained through experience in the field. A detailed command of these exceptionally sensitive issues is built through continuing education. Among other things, that should cover: the legislation in force; hazard identification; the preparation of safety plans; the management of hazardous materials and procedures; the systematic recording of accidents and of practices or even be-

haviours that could lead to them; the use of protective measures; and the provision of first aid.

On a construction site, in a machine shop or on a production line, the engineer is the person in charge and, I would go further, the leader of the operation. A great deal depends on their organisational and managerial ability, the supervision and coordination they exercise, the way they handle a crisis, should one arise, and the responsibility they bring to investigating an accident so that it is not repeated. I regard empathy as no less important in anyone who leads such work.

There can be no compliance with construction and operational specifications without the assurance of safe operation.

I will never forget a crew working in a ship's engine room. They were very protective of an older colleague who was close to retirement, and made sure he was assigned only lighter duties.

When it comes to strengthening curricula, I should point out that NTUA's schools already offer relevant courses. I taught one of them myself: "Health and Safety in Shipbuilding and Ship-Repair Work", which forms part of the curriculum of the School of Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering. I chose to teach it because of my experience as a workshop manager in the marine and industrial sector, which was exceptionally instructive.

Beyond what is already being done, a university-wide elective on Occupational Health and Safety and on the prevention of accidents at work, open to all NTUA students, could indeed be introduced. An initiative for more educational visits to machine shops, production lines, construction sites and shipyards would be equally worthwhile.

The experience gained through direct,

A university-wide elective on Occupational Health and Safety and on the prevention of accidents at work could indeed be introduced, open to all NTUA students.

practical contact with the work itself is irreplaceable. That is immediately apparent to anyone who has descended a steep ladder on board a ship, or entered a confined engine room where major repairs have to be carried out.

- You have described artificial intelligence as a powerful tool for engineers, while insisting that scientific judgement cannot be replaced. Where can it make a real difference to risk assessment and prevention at work? What institutional and regulatory safeguards are needed to keep human judgement and responsibility in charge?

Ioannis Chatjigeorgiou. Artificial intelligence is indeed an exceptionally powerful tool, one not confined to a single discipline or activity. Its field of application will continue to widen. As a new tool – as a methodology, if I may call it that – it is striking in what it makes possible. It is understandable, though excessive in my view, that we attribute miraculous powers to it. But that is not the case.

The “human” factor will always be paramount, particularly where a physical presence is required. Artificial intelligence may be able to take over certain activities, but not human empathy, nor the inward, instinctive impulse to go to another person’s aid in the event of an accident, a hazard or a failure.

That said, making use of its capabilities in risk assessment may indeed be a necessity: in recording incidents, analysing and evaluating them, identifying their causes and quantifying risk in probabilistic terms. Processes that once required enormous

amounts of time can now be completed in periods that would previously have been unimaginable. Given that knowledge is power, and that prediction rests on prior knowledge and experience, artificial intelligence can indeed deliver real progress in Occupational Health and Safety.

On the final part of your question, I would make one brief point. Safeguards are always established through the legislative and regulatory frameworks in force, which are shaped by experience and practice. The same will apply to artificial intelligence models. Responsibility, in the sense you describe, will always rest with a human being.

- The green and digital transitions are bringing in new technologies and processes, while the climate crisis is generating new hazards. How can risk assessment be built into a methodology or product from the outset? And what is different about anticipating the risks



associated with the climate crisis?

Ioannis Chatjigeorgiou. The green and digital transitions, together with the blue economy as part of the green transition, are necessities for science, states and societies. They aim to improve living conditions, health and quality of life; to support economic development; to protect the environment; to promote longevity; and to safeguard natural resources. And the demands that follow are, of course, more than one could count.

Science and the technological developments that follow from it are what turn these necessities into reality, and the pace of change depends on technological maturity. Potential risks can therefore be assessed early rather than only after the event. Risk, including its qualitative and statistical assessment, can be built into the development of a methodology, process or product from the outset. The clearest example is the aviation industry, from manufacture through to operation, and the rigorous protocols it has adopted.

The climate crisis is different. It is anthropogenic, in that human activity is largely responsible, but it is not, of course, a chosen outcome. It is already here, and we experience its effects every day. Forecasting the risks it creates depends on our ability to anticipate its impacts. From that perspective, the sheer intensity of the research now being conducted worldwide is reassuring: it takes into account the full range of potential effects on the environment, on structures and on people.

- Science, technology and regulation have all advanced, yet serious accidents at work and engineering failures continue to occur. Where is the gap between knowledge and practice widest: in education, design, organisation, supervision or the culture of prevention?

Ioannis Chatjigeorgiou. Your observation is correct: accidents and engineering failures still occur. We should recognise, however, that we live in an era in which protect-

ing workers is a priority. We are irreversibly past the days when accidents, damage to health, injuries and even deaths were included in the statistical projections for the construction or operation of a project or process.

Technological development and society's shift towards human-centred values have both contributed to this change. No project can be considered successful if the people involved in its construction, operation and future development do not feel safe.

We are irreversibly past the days when accidents, damage to health, injuries and even deaths were included in the statistical projections for a project.

The truth is that an accident is the product of a sequence of factors, small or large, visible or hidden, foreseeable or not. Think of it as a chain: break one link and the sequence is interrupted. That is precisely what prevention seeks to do – interrupt the chain, every link of which is a source of risk.

Averting risk requires education, design, work organisation and supervision, together with persistence and thoroughness in applying them. Gaps exist, and new ones will appear whenever technological developments introduce new projects, structures, methodologies and processes. I believe, however, that the critical factor is the culture of prevention. It is what drives us to close the gaps across all the factors that affect Occupational Health and Safety, whether individually or in combination.

- You have spoken about NTUA specialists advising the state on complex issues. Could a standing mechanism be established to turn university research, ELINYAE's data and workplace experience into prevention policy, technical standards and training tools?

Ioannis Chatjigeorgiou. NTUA and its people enjoy the esteem and the confidence of both the state and society. The expertise of the institution's professors is frequently sought on complex issues, while members of our community also serve as court-appointed experts, at the request of the authorities, helping to establish the facts in cases of serious and sensitive public interest.

It falls to all of us who teach to embed a culture of prevention, so that future engineers learn to place the protection of people at the top of every action and decision.

It could hardly be otherwise. For almost two centuries, NTUA has helped shape this country's future and, as a leading institution of education and research, supported its development. Our sensitivity to social responsibility and public service has consistently led us to seek out areas in which our community can contribute voluntarily and without remuneration, placing its knowledge and tools at the disposal of the state and society.

The possibilities you mention are already being explored. Closer cooperation has developed of late between ELINYAE and

NTUA faculty, and it has now been formalised through the Memorandum of Understanding and Cooperation between ELINYAE and NTUA. I had the personal pleasure and honour of signing it on NTUA's behalf.

I see this partnership as part of NTUA's commitment to academic social responsibility and public service, with scope for broader application. ELINYAE holds data, archives and incident records, and brings together respected professionals with deep practical knowledge. The development of protection methods and the establishment of standards depend on capturing what is already known. NTUA can help give that knowledge a scientific foundation and, ultimately, strengthen a culture of prevention.

At the same time, NTUA carries another fundamental responsibility: it educates the engineers of the future and equips them for their professional careers. It falls to all of us who teach to embed a culture of prevention, so that future engineers learn to place the protection of people at the top of every action and decision.

- The NTUA–ELINYAE partnership places research, education and the culture of prevention at its centre. The 5th Hellenic Conference on Occupational Health and Safety will be held on November 23–24 2026 at the Megaron Athens International Conference Centre under NTUA's sci-

Ioannis Chatjigeorgiou is a professor at NTUA's School of Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering and has served as the institution's rector since November 2023. From 2019 to 2023, he was vice-rector for research and life-long education. He has more than 30 years of teaching experience and substantial practical experience in Occupational Health and Safety, gained as a workshop manager in the marine and industrial sector. His research focuses on hydrodynamics and marine structures. He has authored more than 180 papers in journals and conference proceedings, many of them single-authored.

entific auspices. What concrete results do you expect from the partnership over the coming years, and how would you measure its success?

Ioannis Chatjigeorgiou. Let me begin by saying how pleased I am that this closer cooperation between NTUA and ELINYAE has been formalised through the Memorandum of Understanding and Cooperation during my term as rector. I would also like to highlight the decisive contributions of Rena Bardani, ELINYAE's president, and Ioannis Zevgolis, an associate professor at NTUA, in bringing the two institutions together.

Occupational Health and Safety, together with the establishment and application of risk-prevention standards, should form part of engineering curricula. I believe our cooperation with ELINYAE will make a decisive contribution in this direction.



Artificial intelligence may be able to take over certain activities, but not human empathy.

Beyond education, I look forward to research in areas such as data analysis, the issuing of standards and protocols, and the investigation of the impact of accidents. The results will not be immediately visible. I would, however, regard it as an immediate success if more students acquired a basic grounding in safety at work. That is the right path towards embedding a culture of prevention, with priority given to young engineers.

Occupational Accidents in the Greek Extractive Industry: Statistical Analysis and Prevention Priorities Based on EMNE Data, 2015-2024

By I.E. Zevgolis¹, I. Polydorou², M.Vaidani³

Abstract

This article presents selected findings from the statistical analysis of occupational accidents recorded by the Southern Greece Mines Inspectorate during the period 2015-2024. A total of 335 incidents were digitised and classified, while up to 200 records were used in the individual analyses, following the exclusion of incidents of pathological origin, accidents resulting in absences of up to three days and files containing insufficient information. The classification was based on the ESAW methodology and on additional variables adapted to the extractive industry sector. Most incidents were classified in the Sev 1 category (68%), while 11 incidents were classified as Sev 4. Slips, trips and falls constituted the most frequent deviation category, whereas falling or collapsing materials and loss of control of equipment were more prevalent among high-severity incidents. In the absence of exposure denominators, the results are interpreted as reporting patterns and indications of priority areas rather than as comparative risk indicators. The synthesis highlights specific prevention priorities, with particular emphasis on contractor management, the separation of people and mobile equipment, the prevention of falling materials and the improvement of reporting quality.

Keywords: occupational accidents, occupational safety and health, ESAW, mines and quarries, accident severity, contractor personnel, mobile equipment, accident reporting.

The full article is available in the Greek edition of the magazine [here](#).

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1. Associate Professor, School of Mining and Metallurgical Engineering, National Technical University of Athens (NTUA)
 2. Mining and Metallurgical Engineer, NTUA
 3. PhD in Mining and Metallurgical Engineering, Mines Inspector, Mines Inspectorate of Southern Greece (EMNE)

The Evolution of European Chemicals Policy: From Classical Toxicology to Modern Chemical Safety

*By A. Nikolaou **

Abstract

European chemicals policy is evolving as scientific research has revealed new mechanisms through which chemical substances can affect human health and the environment, leading to a revision of chemical risk assessment. Recent changes to the CLP Regulation, growing concern regarding Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS), and the increased emphasis placed on substances that persist in the environment demonstrate a shift towards a more preventive approach to chemical safety.

This article presents the most significant scientific developments that have shaped contemporary European chemicals policy, highlighting the close relationship between scientific knowledge and regulatory policy, as well as the challenges expected to shape the future of chemical safety in Europe. Understanding these developments is particularly important for professionals involved in chemical risk management and occupational safety and health.

Keywords: European chemicals policy, chemical risk assessment, CLP Regulation, PFAS, chemical safety, regulatory policy, occupational safety and health, chemical risk management.

The full article is available in the Greek edition of the magazine [here](#).

* Chemist, MSc, Laboratory Manager, Hellenic Institute for Occupational Health and Safety (ELINYAE)

Occupational Health and Safety of Delivery Riders, Couriers and Field Employees Using Two-Wheeled Vehicles: Research Findings

By Th. Koukoulaki¹, Dr P. Georgiadou², K. Kapsali³

Abstract

This article presents a summary of the findings of a research study conducted by ELINYAE in 2025, which aimed to investigate the occupational health and safety risks faced by delivery riders, couriers and field employees using two-wheeled vehicles, with a view to identifying prevention priorities.

Keywords: delivery riders, couriers, field employees, two-wheeled vehicles, occupational health and safety, occupational risks, prevention, research findings.

The full article is available in the Greek edition of the magazine [here](#).

1 Surveying Engineer, Ergonomist, PhD, Eur. Erg., Manager of the Research and Development Dpt. (ELINYAE)

2 Chemical Engineer, Research and Development Dpt. (ELINYAE)

3 Sociologist, MSc, Research and Development Dpt. (ELINYAE)

Heat Stress: ELINYAE's Interventions

In response to the growing impact of high temperatures on workers' health and safety, ELINYAE implemented a series of information, awareness-raising and outreach initiatives focused on occupational heat stress. These activities included the publication of practical guidance material, dissemination of expert information through the media, participation in television and radio programmes, and the promotion of scientific knowledge on the challenges posed by heat exposure in the workplace. Through these actions, ELINYAE aimed to support employers, workers and occupational safety and health professionals in preventing heat-related risks and adapting workplaces to the emerging challenges associated with climate change.

Detailed information on all heat stress initiatives, publications, media appearances and awareness-raising activities is available in the Greek edition of the magazine [here](#).



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During the reporting period, ELINYAE further strengthened its national, European and international presence through strategic partnerships, research collaboration, training initiatives and participation in major occupational safety and health networks. Significant developments included cooperation agreements with the National Technical University of Athens and the Hellenic Institute for Human Rights, ELINYAE's accession to EUROSHNET, active participation in PEROSH activities, the organization of events on psychosocial risks and the green transition, as well as initiatives aimed at supporting the next generation of occupational safety and health professionals through the SafetyPass program. ELINYAE also continued to contribute to the broader dialogue on emerging challenges, including ESG-related occupational risks and the promotion of a positive safety culture. Indicative activities included:

Memorandum of Cooperation Signed Between NTUA and ELINYAE

On May 5 2026, the National Technical University of Athens (NTUA) and the Hellenic Institute for Occupational Health and Safety (ELINYAE) have signed a Memorandum of Cooperation, launching a strategic

partnership aimed at advancing education, research, and knowledge dissemination in the field of Occupational Safety and Health (OSH). Signed by NTUA Rector Ioannis K. Chatzigeorgiou and ELINYAE's Chair of the Board Rena Bardani, the agreement reflects a shared commitment to strengthening prevention culture and promoting safer and healthier workplaces. Through joint initiatives, knowledge exchange, and collaborative research activities, the partnership aspires to bridge academic excellence with the evolving needs of industry and society, while further enhancing national and international efforts to foster a strong culture of occupational health and safety.



Memorandum of Cooperation Signed Between ELINYAE and the Greek National Commission for Human Rights

On May 20 2026, the Hellenic Institute for Occupational Health and Safety (ELINYAE) and the Greek National Commission for Human Rights (GNCHR) have signed a Memorandum of Cooperation, establishing a new framework for joint action aimed at promoting occupational health and safety as a fundamental human right. The partnership will support awareness-raising initiatives, knowledge exchange, and dialogue on workers' protection, reinforcing the importance of safe and healthy working conditions for all.



ELINYAE Joins EUROSHNET

On May 27, 2026, the Hellenic Institute for Occupational Health and Safety (ELINYAE) has become a member of EUROSHNET, the European network of organizations and experts active in occupational safety and health standardization, testing, and certification. This membership strengthens ELINYAE's connection with leading European OSH institutions, fostering knowledge exchange, collaboration, and the promotion of innovative approaches to prevention and workplace safety across Europe.



Occupational Health and Safety: From Theory to Practice

On May 5 2026, ELINYAE, in collaboration with the National Technical University of Athens (NTUA), organized a scientific event titled "Occupational Health and Safety: From Theory to Practice", bringing together representatives from academia, industry, and the

OSH community. The event highlighted the critical role of prevention, education, and co-operation in protecting workers' health and well-being, while addressing emerging workplace challenges and the need for a stronger prevention culture.



Addressing Psychosocial Risks in the Workplace

On May 11, 2026 ELINYAE, together with the University of Ioannina, co-organized a conference focused on the prevention and management of psychosocial risks in the workplace. The event brought together academics and experts to discuss the growing impact of psychosocial factors on workers' health and highlighted the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration in creating healthier and

safer work environments.

ELINYAE Participates in the MH4HRM Project Meeting in Bologna, Italy

On May 7, 2026, The MH4HRM (Mental Health for Human Resources Management) project, funded under the Erasmus+ KA220-VET programme, brought together partners from Spain, Portugal, Italy, Greece and Croatia to strengthen the capacity of



HR professionals in addressing workplace mental health challenges. ELINYAE was

represented at the final transnational project meeting hosted by the University of Bologna by Theoni Koukoulaki, PhD, Ergonomist and Coordinator of ELINYAE's Research and Development Department, and K. Kapsali, MSc Sociologist and Information Specialist. The meeting focused on reviewing the project's achievements, dissemination activities and long-term impact, while highlighting innovative training tools and resources designed to support healthier, more inclusive and resilient workplaces across Europe.

ELINYAE Invests in the Next Generation through the SafetyPass Programme

As part of its commitment to strengthening occupational health and safety awareness



among young professionals, ELINYAE offered final-year students from vocational education institutes the opportunity to complete the SafetyPass training programme free of charge. SafetyPass is an innovative educational tool designed to provide workers with a common foundation of knowledge on occupational risk prevention and safe working practices. Upon successful completion, participants receive SafetyPass certification, enhancing their professional qualifications and supporting their transition into the labour market while fostering a strong culture of prevention from the very beginning of their careers.

ELINYAE at the PEROSH Scientific Steering Committee Meeting in Lausanne

On May 19&20 2026, ELINYAE participated in the meeting of the PEROSH Scientific Steering Committee, held in Lausanne, Switzerland, bringing together representatives from the network's fifteen member institutes. ELINYAE was represented by Theoni Koukoulaki, PhD, Ergonomist and Coordinator of the Research and Development Department. The meeting provided an important platform for the exchange of scientific knowledge, expertise and best



ty, while strengthening cooperation among

Europe's leading research organisations. Through its active involvement in PEROSH initiatives, ELINYAE continues to contrib-

ute to international research efforts and remain at the forefront of developments in occupational health and safety.

ELINYAE Representatives Participate in PEROSH Summer School 2026

On June 22-25 2026, ELINYAE representatives Dafni Nalbant-Sarikaki, MSc Civil Engineer and PhD Candidate at the National Technical University of Athens (NTUA), and Spyridon-Alexandros Galanis, Mining and Metallurgical Engineer and PhD Candidate at NTUA, participated in the PEROSH Summer School 2026 in Vienna. The programme focused on bridging scientific research, policymaking and workplace practice, bringing together early-career researchers and science communication professionals from across Europe. Through presentations, workshops and networking activities, participants explored innovative approaches to communicating research findings and translating scientific



knowledge into practical solutions that can support safer and healthier workplaces.

ELINYAE Participates in the “Positive Safety Culture Towards Vision Zero” Conference

On June 11 2026 . ELINYAE participated in the conference “Positive Safety Culture Towards Vision Zero”, held in Nicosia, Cyprus, within the framework of the Cyprus Presidency of the Council of the European Union 2026. The event brought together representatives of European institutions, national authorities, research organisations and social partners to discuss the role of leadership, worker participation and social dialogue in achieving the Vision Zero goal. ELINYAE was represented by Rena Bardani, Chair of the Board of Directors, and Dr. Antonis Targoutzidis, Planning manager, reaffirming the Institute's commitment to advancing prevention and occupational safety and health and contributing to the European dialogue on safer and healthier workplaces.



Occupational Safety and Health in Extreme Weather Events and Changing Weather Patterns

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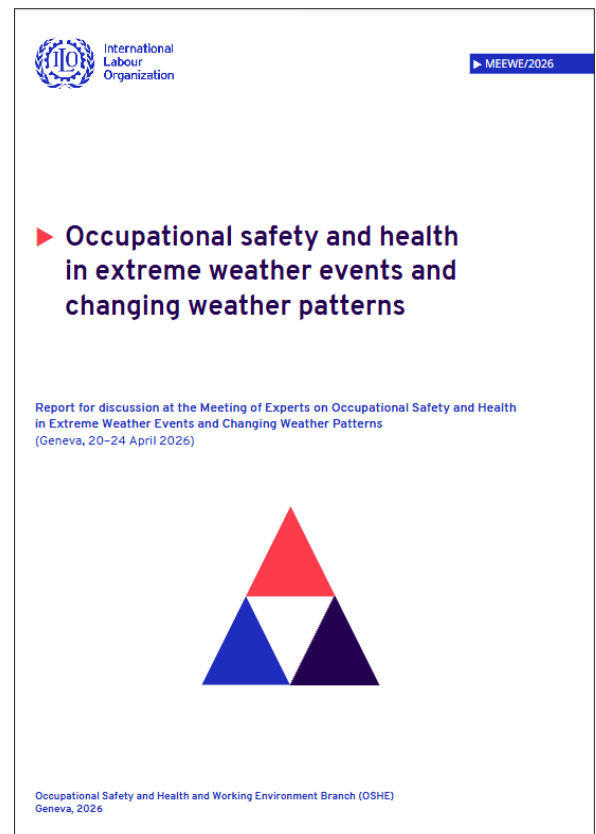
The International Labour Organization (ILO) published Occupational Safety and Health in Extreme Weather Events and Changing Weather Patterns in 2026. It is the Organization's first comprehensive technical report dedicated to the impact of extreme weather events and changing weather patterns on occupational safety and health.

The report served as a key reference document for the ILO Meeting of Experts held in Geneva in April 2026 and led to the adoption, for the first time at the international level, of tripartite Conclusions on protecting workers and enterprises from risks associated with climate change and extreme weather events.

It examines the effects of heat stress, floods, wildfires, storms, droughts and other extreme weather events on workers' safety and health, highlighting the sectors and groups of workers most exposed to these risks. At the same time, it presents the international regulatory framework, prevention policies and examples of good practice for managing these emerging risks.

The Conclusions of the Meeting emphasize the need to integrate climate-related risks into occupational safety and health policies, occupational risk assessment, emergency preparedness and climate change adaptation measures.

The report is intended for occupational safety and health professionals, labour in-



spectors, occupational physicians, safety engineers, social partners, researchers and policymakers, serving as an important tool for addressing the new challenges that the climate crisis creates in the world of work.

The report is available online, <https://www.ilo.org/sites/default/files/2026-03/MEEWE-2026-EN.pdf>

and the Conclusions of the Meeting of Experts are also available online <https://www.ilo.org/resource/record-decisions/conclusions-meeting-experts-occupational-safety-and-health-extreme-weather>

Accidents

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