

EURES 30th Anniversary – Q&A

1. What is EURES and why was it established?

EURES, short for European Employment Services, is a cooperation network designed to facilitate the free movement of workers within the European Economic Area (EEA) countries plus Switzerland. Established in 1994, it emerged as a response to the growing need for a unified platform to address labour market challenges such as unemployment disparities and skill shortages across Europe. Its primary aim is to ensure fair and transparent recruitment practices while promoting job mobility and equal opportunities for all citizens and residents with a valid work permit within the European labour market.

2. How does EURES operate across different countries?

EURES operates as a network of employment services, collaborating with public employment services, trade unions, and employer's organisations in EEA countries and Switzerland. Through its online platform, the EURES portal on eures.europa.eu and 1,000 EURES Advisers, EURES provides a range of services to both job seekers and employers, including job matching, recruitment support, and information on living and working conditions in different European countries, European recruitment and information events (European Online Job Days), among others.

3. What services does EURES offer to job seekers and employers?

For job seekers, EURES offers access to job vacancies, assistance with CV preparation, information on living and working conditions in different European countries, and guidance on cross-border employment rights and regulations, support in overcoming administrative barriers. Employers can benefit from services such as the publication of vacancies, recruitment assistance, and support in finding qualified candidates from across Europe, support in overcoming administrative barriers.

4. How can individuals contact EURES for assistance?

Individuals can contact EURES through various channels, including the EURES portal, where they can find contact information for National Coordination Offices and access online resources such as job databases and information on living and working conditions or labour market information. Additionally, EURES Advisers are available to provide personalised assistance through phone, email or chat.



5. What job opportunities can individuals find through EURES?

EURES provides access to a wide range of job offers across various sectors and skill levels in participating countries. These include permanent, temporary, and seasonal positions, as well as opportunities for traineeships and apprenticeships. Job seekers can search for vacancies by location, industry, and job type on the EURES portal.

6. Could you share a significant story of EURES impacting someone's life?

Jose Antonio, a plumber who POD believes may be their 400th recruit, is a EURES jobseeker. "In Spain there is a lot of unemployment and low pay," he explains. "So I searched online and found a plumbing job in Germany through the EURES portal...Of course, I'm nervous about it, but it's a very good, permanent opportunity and a chance for me to learn a new language in a new country." [https://eures.europa.eu/german-firm-fills-400-job-vacancies-5-years-eures-2018-02-14_en]

7. What are EURES Members and Partners?

EURES Members and Partners provide EURES services to jobseekers and employers. The admission of new EURES Members and Partners helps to broaden the network to offer more information, guidance, and recruitment services to an even wider audience of jobseekers and employers all over Europe.

8. How can an organisation become a Member of Partner?

Any organisation providing employment services is welcome to join the network if it meets the common criteria laid down in the EURES Regulation as well as the requirements and procedures of the relevant national admission system.

A EURES Member must:

- Contribute to the pool of job vacancies by transmitting data to the EURES portal.
- Contribute to the pool of job applications and CVs by transmitting data to the EURES portal.
- Provide support services directly to jobseekers and employers (information, guidance, post-recruitment support).

A EURES Partner must provide at least one of the three services mentioned above and justify that it cannot deliver all services of a Member. To find out more about national rules, procedures and national contact points [click here](#).





9. How has EURES evolved over its 30-year history?

Over the past three decades, EURES has evolved from a basic job exchange platform to a comprehensive network offering a wide range of services to job seekers and employers. It has expanded its reach to cover more countries, diversified its service offerings, and embraced digital technologies to enhance accessibility and efficiency. At first, it was mainly formed of public employment services, however, in 2016, the service started to incorporate private recruitment and employment organisations as partners. In 2023, these members and partners total 269 organisations in the 31 Member States.

10. Why is EURES celebrating its 30th anniversary?

EURES is celebrating its 30th anniversary to commemorate its achievements in promoting labour mobility and supporting the integration of European citizens into the labour market. It is also an opportunity to reflect on the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead, as well as to reaffirm its commitment to facilitating job mobility and equal opportunities for all within Europe.

11. What are the future goals and challenges for EURES?

Looking ahead, EURES aims to further enhance its services to meet the evolving needs of job seekers and employers in a rapidly changing labour market. Key priorities include strengthening cooperation with stakeholders, expanding the use of digital tools and platforms, and addressing emerging challenges such as skills shortages, demographic changes, and the impact of globalisation on employment.

