

The Future of Work: RREUSE and AERESS contributions at the ILO's 11th Social Solidarity Economy Academy.

RREUSE presented at the *ILO's* 11th SSE (Social and Solidarity Economy) Academy during the year, contributing to the session in mid-October (14-18 October) which took place in the Ministry of Labour, Migration and Social Security in Madrid, Spain. Approximately two hundred gathered for the SSE Academy travelling from five continents, for the event which aptly fell during the centenary celebrations of the *ILO*. The theme for the bi-annual academy, 'The Social Economy in the Future of Work' attracted a list of participants from UN Agencies, Cooperatives, Municipal Authorities, Universities, Civil Society Organisations and networks to name a few.

RREUSE Policy Officer for Social Affairs, Elaine Hanlon was joined by *AERESS's* Laura Rubio, who also presented as part of the elective 'Innovative models of production and consumption: Circular Economy, new consumption habits and their social and environmental impact.'

Senior Specialist Roberto Di Meglio of *ILO* Geneva and Nuno Castro of *ILO* Lisbon facilitated the discussion over the two-day elective. Other panellists included Markéta Vinkelhoferová of *Fair & BioCoop* (Czech Republic) and *RIPESSE*, Elías Amor Montiel of *Cooperativa Consum* (Spain) and Alejandro Martínez Berriochoa of *EROSKI Foundation* (Spain).

RREUSE was grateful to be present for the conversations, advocating for both social and circular economy in the backdrop of the *ILO's* diverse and knowledgeable audience. *RREUSE* participated in a world café event, exploring questions such as 'how the circular economy can be better promoted by local municipalities to further support social economy actors.' Participants also addressed the topic of the future of work and the role that social and solidarity enterprises will play, with site visits in the locality spurring further understanding.

Alongside panel discussions, a list of speakers came from Ministries including Barcelona, Tunisia, Luxembourg as well as Municipal contributions from Bonares (Spain), Mexico, Dakar (Sénégal), and Gatineau (Québec, Canada). The Social Economy and SDG's were highlighted, with best practices shared from a global perspective.



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The SSE Academy proved an opportunity for cross-sectoral and international stimulation, where many stakeholders in the Social and Solidarity worlds came together to prepare for the future of work.

Materials and further details of the event can be found on the SSE Collective [Brain](#) and through youtube [here](#).

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RREUSE is an independent non-profit organisation representing social enterprises active in the field of re-use, repair and recycling, with 27 members across 25 countries in Europe and the USA.

Our main vision is for Europe to support the role of social enterprise in a circular economy, providing meaningful work opportunities to thousands of vulnerable members of our community through innovative economic, social and environmentally beneficial activities.

RREUSE's primary mission is to help tackle poverty, social exclusion and a throwaway culture by promoting policies, best practices and partnerships that support the professionalism and development of social enterprises working in environmental services with high potential for local and inclusive job creation, notably re-use and repair.