

Seminar Wednesday 2. November 2022

Working Conditions in Aviation – in Free Fall or is the Danish Model a Parachute?

To what extent can national labor market models adapt to the development in international aviation, where low-cost airlines for a number of years has put pressure on the traditional airlines and their business models? Does the development push the balance between employers and employees in Danish aviation and what significance has the Covid-19 crisis had?

These are some of the questions that will be discussed at a FAOS seminar the 2. November. Based on a new European research project, the development in Danish aviation up to and during the Corona crisis is compared with the development in Ireland and Germany.

Danish aviation is under pressure from international competition in general and low-cost airlines in particular. In aviation, it is possible to move not only production between countries, but also employees (pilots and cabin crew) as well as the means of production (aircrafts) in just a few hours. This makes it possible for airlines to practice forum shopping to the extreme to achieve the best possible business model - also in relation to wages and working conditions.

Programme:

14.00-14.05: Introduction by Steen Navrbjerg, FAOS

14.05-14.30: Irish aviation – the nest of Ryanair, a New Business Model in Aviation (Professor Michael Doherty, Maynooth University, Ireland)

14.30-14.55: Industrial Relations in German aviation – Erosion or Recalibration of German Industrial Relations? (Associate Professor Michael Whittall, Friedrich-Alexander-University of Erlangen-Nürnberg, Germany)

14.55-15.20: Industrial relations in Danish aviation – turbulence, Ryanair - and a legacy airline in trouble (Associate Professor Steen Navrbjerg, FAOS, University of Copenhagen)

15.20-15.35: Coffee break

15.35-16.25: Panel discussion

- Thilde Waast, Chairman, Flight Personnel Union (FPU)

- Joakim Årlund, VP Industrial Relations & Labour Law, Scandinavian Airlines (SAS)

- Henrik Thyregod, Danish Airline Pilot's Union (DPF)

- Per Henriksen, Head of Secretary, Danish Aviation (Confederation of Danish Industry, DI)

- Kasper Berg, Chairman, Trafikforbundet

16.25-16.30: Rounding up

The seminar is based on an ongoing international research project 'VIRAL – Varieties of Industrial Relations in Lockdown'. The project sheds light on labor market conditions in aviation before, during and after corona in seven countries: Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Ireland, Poland and Denmark. Each country follows the development in the largest national airline (SAS, Lufthansa, Air France etc.) and Ryanair as two polar opposites in the development of aviation. Take a closer look at: <https://viralproject.eu/>



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