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**IOE President contributes to discussion on future of work at G7 Labour and Employment Ministerial**

IOE President, Erol Kiresepi, was invited to attend the G7 Labour and Employment Ministerial in Turin from 29-30 September 2017, under the G7 Italian Presidency. He was accompanied by Roberto Suárez Santos, IOE Deputy Secretary-General.

The meeting was an occasion to further enhance G7 cooperation with social partners in building pathways for a better future of work, by addressing the challenges posed by digitalisation and technological change on employment, and by promoting sound and effective policies to boost the quality and quantity of jobs, and fostering inclusive labour markets and societies.

Erol Kiresepi actively contributed to different discussions on the future of work and active labour market policies. He said “The future of work will no doubt offer unparalleled opportunities. However, we do not deny that challenges could also appear. It is difficult to predict the potential changes that might affect the world of work. However, we need to build resilient and adaptable labour markets that allow workers and countries to manage the transition maximising the potential benefits offered by these new trends.”

He highlighted the good work done by the IOE and other international organisations such as the OECD on the future of work and recommended that these efforts be fully exploited.

Erol Kiresepi stated that diverse forms of employment should be considered as leverage towards inclusion, rather than an obstacle to participating in the labour market, especially for women and young people. He warned against perceiving diverse forms of employment as a
risk as this would be counterproductive, considering there is no evidence to suggest these forms of employment jeopardise fundamental principles and rights per se.

He also referred to the previous economic crisis as a demonstration of how critical it is to avoid structural unemployment to enable job transitions and mobility. He also insisted that a proper assessment is needed of how the digital economy is developing, to bring some clarity as to how it affects employment.

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