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EUROPEAN FRAMEWORK AGREEMENTS AS A POSSIBLE COMPONENT OF THE EU'S INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

The article describes the approach of the main actors of the European social dialogue to the practice of negotiating European framework agreements (EFA). This is a phenomenon that has emerged in the last few years as a response of employee representatives to the increasing role of transnational corporations. The problem is that the texts negotiated – even though they often relate to issues essential for individual labour relations – operate in a legal vacuum. This results is the emergence of questions about the possibility of their effective implementation and enforcement at the national level. The Authors point out that, in the absence of a European right to strike, creating optional legal framework for EFA at EU level can provide an appropriate balance of power between the parties of collective bargaining in multinational corporations.