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Today Transnational Company Agreements (TCAs) are considered one of the most important tools of the process of Europeanization and internationalisation of industrial relations. They have entailed discussions in the field of European labour law and reflections on the role of trade unions at transnational level. By early 2012, 224 TCAs had been signed in 144 companies, employing more than 10 million people. These agreements cover various subjects, such as fundamental rights and core labour standards, health and safety, restructuring, social dialogue and equal opportunities. Since there is currently no legal framework for transnational collective bargaining at European level they can only be transposed through collective bargaining at national level. The implementation and application of these agreements at national level is, in fact, one of the core issues discussed by scholars dealing with European industrial relations. Taking up the current discussion this book tries to analyse the concrete impact, the challenges and prospects of TCAs. This publication is the outcome of the European project EUROACTA (*European Action on Transnational Company Agreements*), coordinated by IRES, Italy, in partnership with several trade union-related organisations, institutes and universities in seven EU Member States. The book includes contributions of the partner organisations' experts, who in the past had already contributed to some of the internationally most appreciated studies conducted on the subject of TCAs. As the book represents an important update of the current discussion it will be of interest to practitioners and scholars in the field of European industrial relations.

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A STEPPING STONE TOWARDS A REAL INTERNATIONALISATION OF INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS?

Edited by Salvo Leonardi

