



TECHNEQUALITY and COVID-19

Just like everybody else in Europe and across the world, the TECHNEQUALITY team has been facing challenges due to the Coronavirus. Despite the complicated situation, we are doing our best to keep things running to ensure that we finish our deliverables on time while also upholding the highest quality. Technology is certainly helping us achieve our goals as we use different tools to stay in touch and connected from home. Perhaps at some point in the near future, we can count on robots to care for us in hospitals and use big data to help us quickly and efficiently find solutions to challenges such as those caused by the corona crisis. If so, we certainly expect to research the impact on workers. For now, the most important thing to do is take care of yourselves, your loved ones and the people around you!

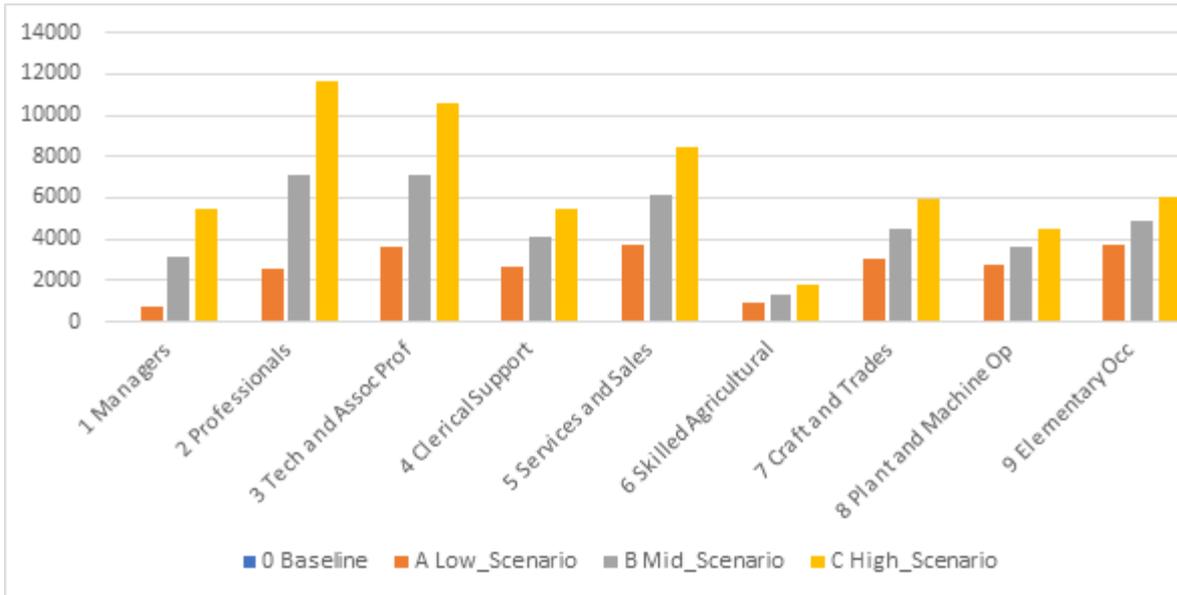


TECHNEQUALITY results

Labour market forecasting scenarios for automation risks: approach and outcomes

In this paper, we describe in more detail the TECHNEQUALITY team's method for adapting the baseline Cedefop Skills Forecast 2018 in order to identify likely scenarios for the impact of automation on jobs in Europe until 2030. We also describe the results from these estimations. In our study, we made use of recently published OECD data on automation risks of occupation to further develop the Cedefop Skills Forecast model and create a unique tool for forecasting the impact of technologies on labour in a way that is comparable across countries. By doing this, we were able to develop a range of likely scenarios to account for the fact that the development, deployment, and adoption of new technologies is characterised by substantial uncertainties. The key characteristics of the scenarios are 1) the technical potential of automation, i.e., the share of job it is expected to automate, 2) the speed of the deployment potential, i.e., the year in which the full automation potential is achieved, 3) socio-political restrictors in the deployment of automation, i.e., the extent to which automation affects new jobs only or also existing jobs, and 4) region-sector-occupation differences in relative wages and employment protection legislation, i.e., the extent to which relatively high wage and low levels of protection could speed up the adoption of technologies. These scenarios lead to a range of estimates for lost employment by 2030 compared to the baseline estimates published earlier by Cedefop. These estimates range from 12.5 million to 106.6 million depending on the scenario considered. Occupations to suffer the largest job loss by 2030 are professionals, technicians and associate professionals, and services and sales occupations. It is worth noting that, in their exercise, the TECHNEQUALITY team did provide a quantitative estimation of the job creation potential of automation since this is speculative and macro-empirical evidence on the link between technology and job creation is scarce.

Figure 3 Employment lost to automation compared to base scenario, by occupation, 2030 (thousands)



Source: Own calculations based on Cedefop, Eurofound (2018)

Read the full report [here](#).

TECHNEQUALITY in the media

- *POLITICO AI SUMMIT 2020 Brussels*. Mark Levels, TECHNEQUALITY Project coordinator was invited to speak at this summit about Access to Talent. The summit was postponed to the end of September 2020.
- *An algorithm would do this better and on less coffee*. Article published on the Maastricht University website.
- *The consequences of AI are underestimated (in Dutch)*. Interview with Mark Levels on L1, the official television channel of the province of Limburg.

News

- Due to COVID-19, we had to cancel our TECHNEQUALITY Consortium Conference, planned on 18-19 June in Brussels. It will most probably be postponed to the second half of this year.
- In December 2019 we finished our first period (year) of TECHNEQUALITY and we submitted the Financial and Technical reports to the European Commission (EC).
- On 10 March we had our first review meeting with the EC. It should have taken place in Brussels, but due to COVID-19 the meeting was held via video conference. All Work Package Leaders, two scientific reviewers and our Project Officer from the EC were present. Overall, the reviewers were positive about our results so far. They did provide some constructive recommendations for improvement, which we will be sure to take into account as we move forward. A great shout out also to our Project Officer at the EC, for organizing this meeting in such short notice. It worked really well!

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