DG EMPL Initiatives – Promoting the EU Pillar of Social Rights

GEOPA–COPA SEMINAR - WARSAW
May 20, 2019

DG EMPL - Unit A2
Overview

• Priorities of the Juncker Commission
• The new Start of social Dialogue
• The European Pillar of Social Rights
• Initiatives by the Commission
• The European Labour Authority
"The social market economy can only work if there is social dialogue. (...) Now it must be resumed at national and especially at European level. I would like to be a President of social dialogue."

Jean-Claude Juncker in his political guidelines  
A new Start for Europe, 2014

"The European Pillar of Social Rights is not a poem. It is first of all a programme of principles but also an action plan."
"If we want to be credible, we have to deliver."

Jean-Claude Juncker during the Social Summit for Fair Jobs and Growth in Gothenburg, 17 November 2017
Unemployment in the EU is decreasing steadily since 2013

- The speed of decrease varies across Member States
- The unemployment rate is approaching its 2008 low point (2018, December: 6.6%)

Source: Eurostat EU LFS
Challenges in EU

Working-age Population (20-64)

Active population

Employment

Commission calculations based on Eurostat 2015 population projections, Eurostat LFS
What is the European Pillar of Social Rights?

- A reference framework for upwards convergence
- 20 principles and rights
- Building on the existing EU social law
- A scoreboard of employment and social indicators
- Several concrete initiatives
The 20 principles and rights at a glance

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<th>Equal opportunities and access to the labour market</th>
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<td>• Education, training and life-long learning</td>
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<td>• Gender equality</td>
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<td>• Equal opportunities</td>
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<td>• Active support to employment</td>
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<th>Fair working conditions</th>
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<td>• Secure and adaptable employment</td>
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<td>• Wages</td>
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<td>• Information about employment conditions and protection in case of dismissals</td>
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<td>• Social dialogue and involvement of workers</td>
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<td>• Work-life balance</td>
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<td>• Healthy, safe and well-adapted work environment</td>
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<th>Adequate and sustainable social protection</th>
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<td>• Childcare and support to children</td>
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<td>• Social Protection</td>
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<td>• Unemployment benefits</td>
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<td>• Minimum income</td>
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<td>• Old age income and pensions</td>
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<td>• Health care</td>
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<td>• Inclusion of people with disabilities</td>
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<td>• Long-term care</td>
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<td>• Housing and assistance for the homeless</td>
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<td>• Access to essential services</td>
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Recent legislative and non-legislative initiatives

Equal opportunities and access to the labour market

- **European Skills Agenda**: 10 key actions to promote up-skilling and life-long learning
- **European Accessibility Act**

Social protection and inclusion

- Recommendation on **access to social protection**
- Proposal for a Regulation to modernise the **coordination of social security systems**

Fair working conditions

- Proposal for a Directive on **Work-life balance**
- Proposal for a Directive on **Transparent and Predictable Working Conditions**
- Legal guidance on **Working Time Directive**
- Revision of the **Posting of Workers Directive**
- Proposal for a **European Labour Authority**
Further challenges in the EU

- *Unfair competition and social dumping in the Internal Market*
- Effectively enforcing EU rules
- Supply of clear, accessible and transparent information to citizens and employers
- Adequacy of instruments to support administrative cooperation on cross-border mobility issues
- Overcoming expertise and institutional fragmentation
Labour mobility in the EU

- Mobile citizens: 8 million in 2007, 1.3 million in 2010, 2.8 million in 2017
- Posted workers: 17 million in 2017
Objectives of the Authority

- Easier access to information and labour mobility services for individuals and employers
- Strengthened cooperation between national authorities in cross-border enforcement, including inspections
- Mediation between national authorities in case of administrative disputes
Organisation of the Authority

- **Management Board**
  - Two EC representatives [voting right]
  - Member States [voting right]
  - One EP expert and 4 social partners [no voting right]
  - Third countries and other EU agencies [observers]

- **Executive Director**

- **Stakeholders Group:**
  - Two EC representatives
  - 10 EU social partners
Staff, Budget and Seat

- Five-year transition phase (2019-2024)
- Cruising speed
  - Staff of 144
  - 30 seconded national experts
  - 27 national liaison officers
  - Budget from €2M in 2019 to 50M in 2024
- Seat: to be decided by the Member States
  - Candidatures: beginning of May
  - Final decision: 13 June
Conclusion

- The Juncker Commission has delivered on the social agenda

- Labour markets are improving, but challenges remain: *new world of work; increasing mobility*

- These call for initiatives - *ELA*
Thank you for your attention