



# **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."*

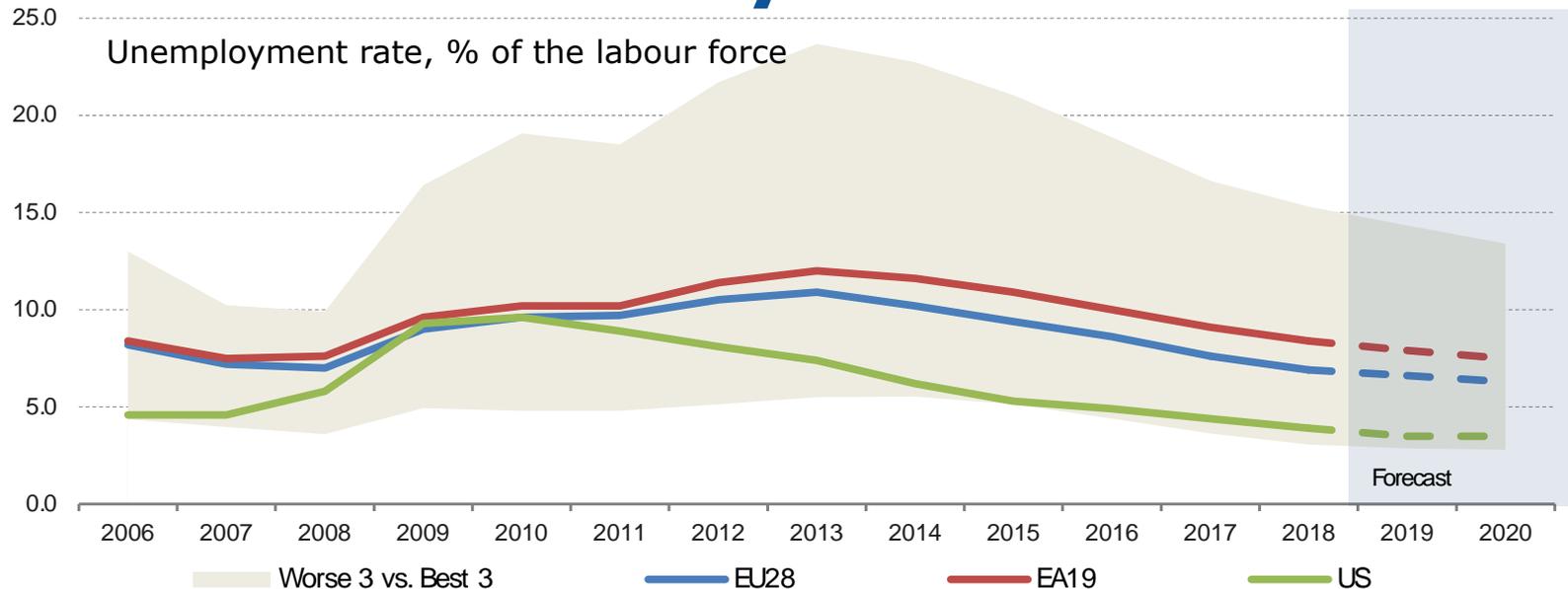
Jean-Claude Juncker in his political guidelines  
*A new Start for Europe, 2014*

*"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."*

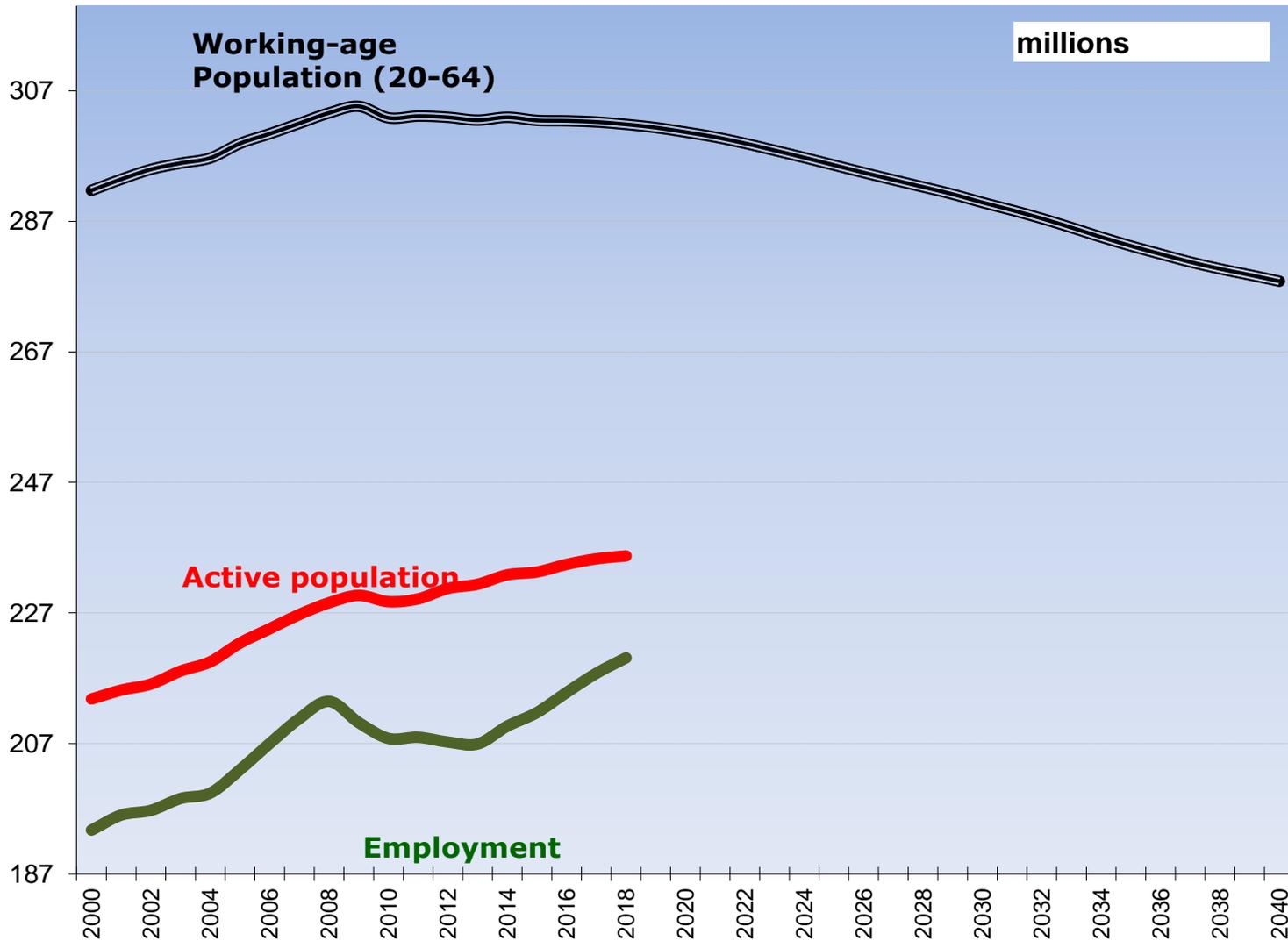
Jean-Claude Juncker during the Social Summit  
for Fair Jobs and Growth in Gothenburg, 17  
November 2017

# 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%)

# Challenges in EU



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

## Equal opportunities and access to the labour market

- **Education, training and life-long learning**
- **Gender equality**
- **Equal opportunities**
- **Active support to employment**

## Fair working conditions

- **Secure and adaptable employment**
- **Wages**
- **Information about employment conditions and protection in case of dismissals**
- **Social dialogue and involvement of workers**
- **Work-life balance**
- **Healthy, safe and well-adapted work environment**

## Adequate and sustainable social protection

- **Childcare and support to children**
- **Social Protection**
- **Unemployment benefits**
- **Minimum income**
- **Old age income and pensions**
- **Health care**
- **Inclusion of people with disabilities**
- **Long-term care**
- **Housing and assistance for the homeless**
- **Access to essential services**



## 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**

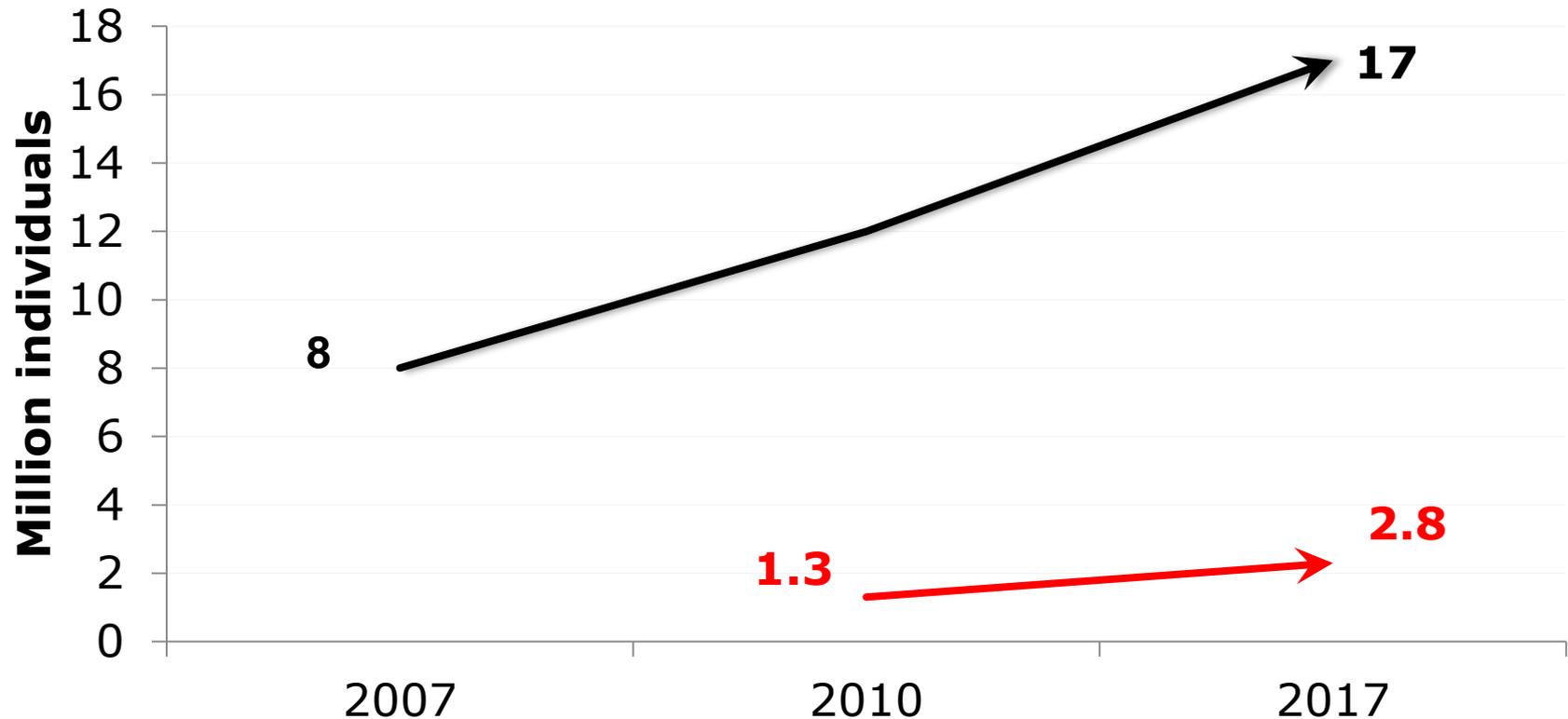
Fair working conditions

- 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 ➔ Posted workers

# 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**