

HEARING

"ROLE OF MINIMUM WAGES/INCOME FOR SOCIAL INCLUSION IN THE EUROPEAN UNION

Committee: Employment and Social Affairs

Date: 12th September 2007

Time: 10.00 - 12.30

Room: ASP 1G2 (check monitors)

Programme

10.00 - 10.05 Opening by Chair (welcome to the experts)

10.05 - 10.15 Presentation by Dublin Foundation on the situation in the EU27 regarding minimum wages (compared with USA and Japan), (Isabella Biletta, Research Manager Industrial Relations).

Main issues:

- * What is the policy objective of a minimum wage?
- * What are the advantages and disadvantages of having a minimum wage and do minimum wage schemes cause competition distortions within the labour market?
- * To what extent do existing schemes of minimum wages help to prevent poverty or the risk of poverty?

10.15 - 11.15 Discussion.

Main issues:

Is there an added value at European level regarding the minimum income and minimum wage in the fight against poverty and the working poor and, if so, which instruments and measures could be considered at EU level in this respect?

11.15 - 11.25 Introduction by the contractor on the study "the role of minimum income for social inclusion in the European Union" (Prof. Emanuele Ranzi-Ortigosa and Chiara Adonella Crepaldi).

Main issues:

- * What is the policy objective of a minimum income?
- * What are the advantages and disadvantages of having a minimum income?
- * To what extent do existing schemes of minimum income help to prevent poverty or the risk of poverty?

11.25 - 11.30 Intervention by the European Economic and Social Committee, Section for Employment, Social Affairs and Citizenship, Ms Madi Sharma (Employers' Group, UK).

11.30 - 12.30 Discussion.

Main issues:

Is there an added value at European level regarding the minimum income and minimum wage in the fight against poverty and the working poor and, if so, which instruments and measures could be considered at EU level in this respect?

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