



**2017/2114(INI)**

20.7.2017

# **AMENDMENTS**

## **1 - 135**

**Draft opinion**

**Yana Toom**

(PE606.272v01-00)

Economic policies of the euro area

(2017/2114(INI))



**Amendment 1**  
**Dominique Martin, Joëlle Mélin, Mara Bizzotto**

**Draft opinion**  
**Recital A**

*Draft opinion*

A. whereas the employment rate in the euro area ***grew by 1.4 % in 2016; whereas in March 2017 the unemployment rate stood at 9.5 %, down from 10.2 % in March 2016; whereas despite recent improvements, unemployment rates have not yet returned to pre-crisis levels;***

*Amendment*

A. whereas the employment rate in the euro area ***remains wretchedly low because of the austerity policies imposed by the European Union;***

Or. fr

**Amendment 2**  
**Marian Harkin**

**Draft opinion**  
**Recital A a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***Aa. whereas the employment rate grew by 1.2% in 2016 in the EU28, 234.2 million people were in employment in the first quarter of 2017, the highest number ever recorded<sup>1a</sup>; however, the considerable number of jobs created in relation to economic growth hides challenges, such as the incomplete recovery in hours worked and modest productivity growth. If lasting, these factors may put additional pressure on long-run economic growth aspects and social cohesion in the EU<sup>1b</sup>;***

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<sup>1a</sup> *Employment and Social Developments in Europe, Annual Review 2017(ESDE),P11*

<sup>1b</sup> *Employment and Social Developments in Europe, Annual Review*

**Amendment 3**

**Maria Arena, Joachim Schuster, Brando Benifei, Evelyn Regner, Elena Gentile, Jutta Steinruck**

**Draft opinion**

**Recital A a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***Aa. whereas employment rates are generally lower among women, in 2015, the employment rate for men aged 20–64 stood at 75.9 % in the EU-28, as compared with 64.3 % for women;***

Or. en

**Amendment 4**

**Lynn Boylan**

**Draft opinion**

**Recital A a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***Aa. whereas the fiscal rules are restricting expansionary economics in Member States and public investment in job creating infrastructure;***

Or. en

**Amendment 5**

**Dominique Martin, Joëlle Mélin, Mara Bizzotto**

**Draft opinion**

**Recital A a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***Aa. whereas in May 2017 the unemployment rate in the euro area stood at 9.3 %, down from 10.2 % in May 2016;***

Or. fr

**Amendment 6  
Lynn Boylan**

**Draft opinion  
Recital A b (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***Ab. whereas despite increasing profit, private investment decreased in the majority of EU15 countries due to the negative impact of stagnation and in some cases falling wage share has on demand across the EU15;***

Or. en

**Amendment 7  
Dominique Martin, Joëlle Mélin, Mara Bizzotto**

**Draft opinion  
Recital A b (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***Ab. whereas the unemployment rate in May 2017 in countries outside the euro area was much lower: Czech Republic (3.0 %), United Kingdom (4.4 %), Poland (4.8 %), Denmark (5.7 %) Bulgaria, (6.0 %), Sweden (6.7 %);***

Or. fr

**Amendment 8**  
**Dominique Martin, Joëlle Mélin, Mara Bizzotto**

**Draft opinion**  
**Recital A c (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**Ac.** *whereas 19 092 million Europeans (EU 28), including 15 011 million in the euro area, were unemployed in May 2017;*

Or. fr

**Amendment 9**  
**Dominique Martin, Joëlle Mélin, Mara Bizzotto**

**Draft opinion**  
**Recital A d (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**Ad.** *whereas economic policy in the euro area has caused unemployment figures to rise by 3 267 million over 10 years (since May 2007) ;*

Or. fr

**Amendment 10**  
**Dominique Martin, Joëlle Mélin**

**Draft opinion**  
**Recital A e (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**Ae.** *whereas the arrival of millions of migrants has not boosted the economy in the EU countries concerned but has entailed considerable costs and jeopardised the safety of Europeans; whereas the term 'new people' used in the institutions' plans is extremely worrying;*

**Amendment 11**  
**Dominique Martin, Joëlle Mélin, Mara Bizzotto**

**Draft opinion**  
**Recital A f (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*Af. whereas unemployed Europeans should be given priority over non-Europeans in regard to accessing jobs;*

**Amendment 12**  
**Dominique Martin, Joëlle Mélin, Mara Bizzotto**

**Draft opinion**  
**Recital B**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

B. whereas in March 2017 the youth unemployment rate in the euro area was 19.4 %, compared with 21.3 % in March 2016; whereas youth unemployment remains unacceptably high;

B. whereas in March 2017 the youth unemployment rate in the euro area was 19.4 %, compared with 21.3 % in March 2016; whereas youth unemployment remains unacceptably high; *whereas the austerity policies advocated by Brussels have been tested for several years in Greece where youth unemployment has hit disastrous levels (46.6 %);*

**Amendment 13**  
**Maria Arena, Joachim Schuster, Brando Benifei, Evelyn Regner, Elena Gentile, Jutta Steinruck**

**Draft opinion**  
**Recital B**

*Draft opinion*

B. whereas in March 2017 the youth unemployment rate in the euro area was 19.4 %, compared with 21.3 % in March 2016; whereas youth unemployment remains unacceptably high;

*Amendment*

B. whereas in March 2017 the youth unemployment rate in the euro area was 19.4 %, compared with 21.3 % in March 2016; whereas youth unemployment remains unacceptably high; ***Whereas in 2015 the share NEET's remains high and represents 14,8 % of 15-29 year olds, namely 14 million of NEET's;***

Or. en

**Amendment 14**

**Maria Arena, Joachim Schuster, Brando Benifei, Evelyn Regner, Elena Gentile, Jutta Steinruck**

**Draft opinion**

**Recital B a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***Ba. whereas Young people not in employment, education or training are estimated to cost the EU €153bn (1.21% of GDP) a year – in benefits and foregone earnings and taxes[1]while the total estimated cost of establishing Youth Guarantee schemes in the Eurozone is €21bn a year, or 0.22% of GDP ; [1] Euro found report on youth unemployment***

Or. en

**Amendment 15**

**Marian Harkin**

**Draft opinion**

**Recital B a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***Ba. whereas long-term unemployment***



*in the EU 28 has decreased from 5% in 2014 to 4% in 2016, it remains a concern accounting for almost half of total unemployment; notes with concern that the very long term unemployment rate of 2.5% in 2016 is still 1% above the 2008 figure; whereas wide disparities remain among Member States* 1a;

Or. en

**Amendment 16**  
**Tamás Meszerics**  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Draft opinion**  
**Recital B a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*Ba. whereas gender employment gaps, gender pay and pension gaps remain significant despite continuous increases in the labour market participation of women and this has negative economic impact;*

Or. en

**Amendment 17**  
**Dominique Martin, Joëlle Mélin, Mara Bizzotto**

**Draft opinion**  
**Recital B a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*Ba. whereas youth unemployment could have very serious long-term consequences on retirement pensions and social security benefits in general;*

Or. fr

**Amendment 18**

**Maria Arena, Joachim Schuster, Brando Benifei, Evelyn Regner, Elena Gentile, Jutta Steinruck**

**Draft opinion**

**Recital B b (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***Bb. Whereas an amount of € 1bn is currently allocated to the Youth Employment Initiative plan which is to be matched by €1 billion from the European Social Fund for the period 2017 - 2020;***

Or. en

**Amendment 19**

**Maria Arena, Joachim Schuster, Flavio Zanonato, Brando Benifei, Evelyn Regner, Elena Gentile, Jutta Steinruck**

**Draft opinion**

**Recital B c (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***Bc. whereas in many Member States the working-age population and the labour force are continuing to shrink, notably as a result of low birth rates; whereas the employability of women as the ongoing arrival of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers are opportunities for Member states to cope with this issue and reinforce the work force in the EU;***

Or. en

**Amendment 20**

**Marian Harkin**

**Draft opinion**

## Recital C

### *Draft opinion*

C. whereas poverty is decreasing **but remains** very high in some Member States;

### *Amendment*

C. whereas poverty is decreasing, **with 4.8 million fewer people at risk of poverty and social exclusion in 2015 than in 2012; the rate of the-at-risk-of poverty or exclusion is still unacceptably high at 23.7%; however notes that figures remain** very high in some Member States;

Or. en

## Amendment 21 Georgi Pirinski

### Draft opinion Recital C

### *Draft opinion*

C. whereas poverty *is* decreasing **but remains very** high in some Member States;

### *Amendment*

C. whereas **the number of people at risk of poverty and social exclusion instead of decreasing has increased by 1,6 million in comparison to 2008 and poverty is unacceptably** high in some Member States;

Or. en

## Amendment 22 Tamás Meszerics on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

### Draft opinion Recital C

### *Draft opinion*

C. whereas poverty is decreasing but remains very high **in some Member States**;

### *Amendment*

C. whereas poverty is decreasing but remains very high; **additionally energy poverty remains so high that for the concerned 11% of the EU population it**

*leads to a cycle of economic disadvantage;*

Or. en

**Amendment 23**

**Dominique Martin, Joëlle Mélin**

**Draft opinion**

**Recital C**

*Draft opinion*

C. whereas poverty *is decreasing but remains very high in some Member States;*

*Amendment*

C. whereas *119 million Europeans are threatened with poverty in Europe; whereas the return of these poor migrant populations to places close to their homes should be arranged as quickly as possible;*

Or. fr

**Amendment 24**

**Maria Arena, Joachim Schuster, Brando Benifei, Evelyn Regner, Elena Gentile, Jutta Steinruck**

**Draft opinion**

**Recital C a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*Ca. Whereas also one of the five Europe 2020 targets aims at reducing by at least 20 million the number of people in or at risk of poverty and social exclusion; whereas this objective is far from being achieved and in 2013 almost 123 million people in the EU are in this situation of whom 32,2 million persons with disabilities in 2012; whereas in 2013 26,5 million children in the EU28 were at risk of falling into poverty or social exclusion; points out that high levels of inequality reduce the output of the economy and the potential for sustainable growth;*

**Amendment 25**  
**Tamás Meszerics**  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Draft opinion**  
**Recital C a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*Ca. whereas restrictions on public spending and austerity measures are seriously hindering urgently needed investment in critical sectors of the economy and society and therefore withholding economic growth; whereas austerity measures and lack of public investment overly affect the most vulnerable households and may cause social crisis;*

Or. en

**Amendment 26**  
**Maria Arena, Joachim Schuster, Brando Benifei, Evelyn Regner, Elena Gentile, Jutta Steinruck**

**Draft opinion**  
**Recital C b (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*Cb. Whereas the increasing of the employment rate in member states has been unfortunately accompanied - due to the economic crisis, austerity policies and structural reforms - by the increase of atypical, precarious and non-formal forms of employment, zero-hour contracts included, the weakening of social dialogue, the decentralisation of the collective consultation in some member states giving rise to negative impact on*

*worker's rights;*

Or. en

**Amendment 27**

**Maria Arena, Joachim Schuster, Brando Benifei, Evelyn Regner, Elena Gentile, Jutta Steinruck**

**Draft opinion**

**Recital C c (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*Cc. Whereas the most precarious work involves the inability of individuals to enforce their rights, where social insurance protection is absent, where health and safety is put at risk and where work does not provide sufficient income to enable people to live decently; whereas insecurity is another key element of precariousness and it encompasses work uncertainty, income insufficiency, lack of protection against dismissal, an unknown length of employment where there is uncertainty about future employment;*

Or. en

**Amendment 28**

**Maria Arena, Joachim Schuster, Brando Benifei, Evelyn Regner, Elena Gentile, Jutta Steinruck**

**Draft opinion**

**Recital C d (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*Cd. Whereas as opposed to precarious work, decent jobs with employment security must be promoted and required to help tackle unemployment across the EU but also to boost the domestic demand and stimulate growth;*

**Amendment 29**

**Maria Arena, Joachim Schuster, Brando Benifei, Evelyn Regner, Elena Gentile, Jutta Steinruck**

**Draft opinion**

**Recital C e (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***Ce. Whereas growth in most of member states remains low, the EU growth rate for 2016 having even declined to stabilize at 2 % (whereas Global growth (excluding the EU) is expected to strengthen to 3.7% this year and 3.9% in 2018 from 3.2% in 2016) despite positive temporary aspects such as low oil prices, low interest for credits and unconventional monetary policies showing therefore that the EU can do more to boost the economic and social recovery so as to make it more sustainable in the medium term;***

Or. en

**Amendment 30**

**Maria Arena, Joachim Schuster, Brando Benifei, Evelyn Regner, Elena Gentile, Jutta Steinruck**

**Draft opinion**

**Recital C f (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***Cf. Whereas as stated by the Commission[1]to strengthen the convergence within countries and the EU, it is essential to achieve a more inclusive, robust and sustainable growth;***

***[1] European Commission, Press release,***

*the 22 of May 2017*

Or. en

**Amendment 31**

**Dominique Martin, Joëlle Mélin, Mara Bizzotto**

**Draft opinion**

**Recital D**

*Draft opinion*

D. whereas labour market conditions and performances show substantial differences across Member States, ***though these disparities are decreasing;***

*Amendment*

D. whereas labour market conditions and performances show substantial differences across Member States; ***whereas the net minimum wage in Bulgaria is EUR 160 as opposed to EUR 1 153 in France, and whereas low wages have never been a sign of a prosperous economy;***

Or. fr

**Amendment 32**

**Maria Arena, Joachim Schuster, Evelyn Regner, Jutta Steinruck**

**Draft opinion**

**Recital D**

*Draft opinion*

D. whereas labour market conditions and performances show substantial differences across Member States, ***though these disparities are decreasing;***

*Amendment*

D. whereas labour market conditions and performances show substantial differences across Member States;

Or. en

**Amendment 33**

**Georgi Pirinski**

**Draft opinion**



## Recital D

### *Draft opinion*

D. whereas labour market conditions and performances show substantial differences across Member States, ***though these disparities are decreasing;***

### *Amendment*

D. whereas labour market conditions and performances show substantial differences across Member States;

Or. en

## Amendment 34

**Tamás Meszerics**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

### **Draft opinion**

**Recital D a (new)**

### *Draft opinion*

### *Amendment*

***Da. whereas economic policies of the euro area highly affect other Member States' economies too;***

Or. en

## Amendment 35

**Tamás Meszerics**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

### **Draft opinion**

**Recital D b (new)**

### *Draft opinion*

### *Amendment*

***Db. whereas the increasingly cross-national tax evasion and corruption affect all Member States and undermines the EU's economic performance, the rule of law and the credibility of democratic institutions;***

Or. en

**Amendment 36**  
**Tamás Meszerics**  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Draft opinion**  
**Recital D c (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***Dc. whereas new forms of employment and labour are becoming more widespread with digital revolution of labour market;***

Or. en

**Amendment 37**  
**Tamás Meszerics**  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Draft opinion**  
**Recital D d (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***Dd. whereas investment, being it private or public is a key tool to increase cohesion and real economy growth, as well as productivity and global competitiveness;***

Or. en

**Amendment 38**  
**Yana Toom**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 1**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

1. Takes the view that further efforts are needed to achieve a balance between

1. Takes the view that further efforts are needed to achieve a balance between

the economic and social dimensions of the European Semester process;

the economic and social dimensions of the European Semester process; ***supports that the Social Scoreboard accompanying the European Pillar of Social Rights be used in the framework of the European Semester;***

Or. en

### **Amendment 39**

**Tamás Meszerics**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

#### **Draft opinion**

##### **Paragraph 1**

###### *Draft opinion*

1. Takes the view that further efforts are needed to ***achieve a balance between*** the economic and ***social*** dimensions ***of the European Semester process;***

###### *Amendment*

1. Takes the view that further efforts are needed to ***strengthen the social dimension of the European Semester process and put it on equal footing with*** the economic and ***financial*** dimensions; ***calls for a greater focus on structural imbalances on the labour market in the CSRs;***

Or. en

### **Amendment 40**

**Georgi Pirinski**

#### **Draft opinion**

##### **Paragraph 1**

###### *Draft opinion*

1. Takes the view that ***further*** efforts are needed to achieve a balance between the economic and social dimensions of the European Semester process;

###### *Amendment*

1. Takes the view that ***genuine*** efforts are needed to achieve a balance between the economic and social dimensions of the European Semester process;

Or. en

## **Amendment 41**

**Dominique Martin, Joëlle Mélin, Mara Bizzotto**

### **Draft opinion**

#### **Paragraph 1**

##### *Draft opinion*

1. Takes the view that further efforts are needed to achieve a balance between the economic and social dimensions *of the European Semester process*;

##### *Amendment*

1. Takes the view that further efforts are needed to achieve a balance between the economic and social dimensions;

Or. fr

## **Amendment 42**

**Maria Arena, Joachim Schuster, Flavio Zanonato, Brando Benifei, Evelyn Regner, Elena Gentile, Jutta Steinruck**

### **Draft opinion**

#### **Paragraph 1 a (new)**

##### *Draft opinion*

##### *Amendment*

*1a. Notes that the EU continues to suffer from structural problems that need to be addressed; recognizes that austerity measures have failed to provide sustainable solutions for these problems; underlines the crucial need to break up austerity policies, to boost the domestic demand by promoting public and private investment, by promoting socially and economically balanced structural reforms that reduce inequalities and promote quality and inclusive jobs, sustainable growth and social investment and responsible fiscal consolidation, thus reinforcing a favourable path towards more cohesion and upward social convergence environment for business and public services with a view to creating more quality jobs while balancing the social and the economic dimensions;*

*stresses that those priorities will only be achieved if investment in human capital is prioritised as a common strategy;*

Or. en

**Amendment 43**

**Sofia Ribeiro, David Casa, Agnieszka Kozłowska-Rajewicz, Georges Bach, Tom Vandenkendelaere, Elisabeth Morin-Chartier**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 1 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*1a. Reiterates the call for the three new headline employment indicators to be placed on an equal footing with existing economic indicators, thereby guaranteeing that internal imbalances are better assessed and making structural reforms more effective;*

Or. en

**Amendment 44**

**Sven Schulze**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 1 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*1a. Agrees to the inclusion of working indicators, which shall have the same weight as macroeconomic indicators, in order to identify economic imbalances more easily and make structural reforms more successful;*

Or. de

**Amendment 45**  
**Sofia Ribeiro**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 1 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***1a. Stresses that Member States should give priority to reforms that will give sustained support to social and economic recovery, create quality employment and boost social and territorial cohesion;***

Or. pt

**Amendment 46**  
**Maria Arena, Joachim Schuster, Brando Benifei, Evelyn Regner, Elena Gentile, Jutta Steinruck**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 1 b (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***1b. Highlights that socially responsible reforms must be based on solidarity, integration, social justice and a fair wealth distribution - a model that ensures equality and social protection, protects vulnerable groups and improves the living standards for all citizens; stresses also the need to re-orientate the union's economic policies towards a social market economy;***

Or. en

**Amendment 47**  
**Sofia Ribeiro**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 1 b (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***1b. Believes that the European Semester process should help to address not only existing but also emerging societal challenges in order to ensure greater economic efficiency coupled with a more socially cohesive European Union; acknowledges, in this respect, the need for an assessment of the social impact of EU policies;***

Or. pt

**Amendment 48**

**Sofia Ribeiro, Agnieszka Kozłowska-Rajewicz, Georges Bach, Tom Vandenkendelaere, Elisabeth Morin-Chartier**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 1 b (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***1b. Proposes introducing a non-punitive social imbalances procedure in the design of the CSRs so as to prevent a race to the bottom in terms of social standards, building on effective use of the social and employment indicators in macroeconomic surveillance;***

Or. en

**Amendment 49**

**Maria Arena, Joachim Schuster, Flavio Zanonato, Evelyn Regner, Jutta Steinruck**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 1 c (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***1c. Is concerned that labour market reforms in many Member states have mainly promoted precarious jobs;***

*observes that 50 % of the jobs created that last 3 years were temporary; in this context, calls for a wage increase not only to guarantee decent income, but also which serves to consolidate the economic recovery through the strengthening of the internal demand;*

Or. en

## **Amendment 50**

**Sofia Ribeiro, Jérôme Lavrilleux, Anne Sander**

### **Draft opinion**

#### **Paragraph 1 e (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*1e. Reiterates the call for the three new headline employment indicators to be placed on an equal footing with existing economic indicators, thereby guaranteeing that internal imbalances are better assessed and making structural reforms more effective*

Or. en

## **Amendment 51**

**Yana Toom**

### **Draft opinion**

#### **Paragraph 2**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

2. Calls on the Commission to continue the Youth Employment Initiative (YEI) up to the end of the current MFF, while at the same time improving its functioning and implementation;

2. Calls on the Commission to *secure adequate funding for fighting youth unemployment which remains unacceptably high in the EU and to* continue the Youth Employment Initiative (YEI) up to the end of the current MFF, while at the same time improving its functioning and implementation *and*



*taking into account the latest findings of the European Court of Auditors' special report on youth employment and the use of YEI; calls on Member States to ensure that the Youth Guarantee is fully accessible;*

Or. en

**Amendment 52**  
**Georgi Pirinski**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 2**

*Draft opinion*

2. Calls on the Commission to continue the Youth Employment Initiative (YEI) up to the end of the current MFF, *while at the same time improving its functioning and implementation;*

*Amendment*

2. ***Recognizes that the Youth Guarantee and the Youth Employment Initiative help Member States to integrate young people into the labour market;*** Calls on the Commission to continue the Youth Employment Initiative (YEI) up to the end of the current MFF ***and requests that this initiative be maintained in the next financial programming period, as it is an essential tool not only for promoting economic growth, but also for reinforcing social cohesion;***

Or. en

**Amendment 53**  
**Dominique Martin, Joëlle Mélin, Mara Bizzotto**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 2**

*Draft opinion*

2. Calls on the Commission to continue the Youth Employment Initiative (YEI) *up to the end of the current MFF, while at the same time improving its*

*Amendment*

2. Calls on the Commission ***not*** to continue the Youth Employment Initiative (YEI); ***points out that, as the report by the Court of Auditors makes clear, the YEI***

*functioning and implementation;*

*has proven ineffective as it has failed to meet public expectations and has not given young people the opportunities it promised; urges reallocation of the budget earmarked for this initiative;*

Or. fr

#### **Amendment 54**

**Lynn Boylan**

#### **Draft opinion**

#### **Paragraph 2**

##### *Draft opinion*

2. Calls on the Commission to continue the Youth Employment Initiative (YEI) *up to the end* of the *current MFF*, *while at the same time improving its functioning and implementation;*

##### *Amendment*

2. Calls on the Commission to continue the Youth Employment Initiative (YEI) *and for Member States to implement the recommendations* of the *European Court of Auditors 2017 review of the scheme; stresses that EU funding is not used to replace national social welfare payments but is instead used to add extra value for young people;*

Or. en

#### **Amendment 55**

**Tamás Meszerics**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

#### **Draft opinion**

#### **Paragraph 2**

##### *Draft opinion*

2. Calls on the Commission to continue the Youth Employment Initiative (YEI) *up to* the end of the current MFF, while at the same time improving its functioning and implementation;

##### *Amendment*

2. Calls on the Commission to continue *and better fund* the Youth Employment Initiative (YEI) *beyond* the end of the current MFF, while at the same time improving its functioning and implementation; *regrets budget shifts out of the ESF including YEI towards the*

*European Solidarity Corps which needs fresh money;*

Or. en

**Amendment 56**

**Sofia Ribeiro**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 2**

*Draft opinion*

2. Calls on the Commission to continue the Youth Employment Initiative (YEI) *up to the end of the current MFF*, while at the same time improving its functioning and implementation;

*Amendment*

2. Calls on the Commission to continue the Youth Employment Initiative (YEI), while at the same time improving its functioning and implementation; *stresses the need for a qualitative and quantitative assessment of the jobs created;*

Or. pt

**Amendment 57**

**Georgi Pirinski**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 2 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*2a. Underlines that the European Social Fund (ESF) is the most important EU tool for investment in human capital; recommends that the share of ESF in the future Cohesion Policy be increased to at least 25 % of the respective national envelopes;*

Or. en

**Amendment 58**

**Sofia Ribeiro**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 2 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**2a. Calls on the Member States to implement the proposals contained in the Council Recommendation of 15 February 2016 on the integration of the long-term unemployed into the labour market (2016/C 67/01);**

Or. pt

**Amendment 59**  
**Dominique Martin, Joëlle Mélin, Mara Bizzotto**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 3**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

3. Considers that the scope, efficiency and effectiveness of active and sustainable labour market policies ***should be increased;***

3. Considers that ***increasing*** the scope, efficiency and effectiveness of active and sustainable labour market policies ***at EU level is no longer the right solution; demands rather that the Commission allows Member States with a free rein for their own initiatives, so that they may take the steps they need at national level to exit the crisis;***

Or. fr

**Amendment 60**  
**Tamás Meszerics**  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 3**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

3. Considers that the scope, efficiency

3. Considers that the scope, efficiency

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and effectiveness of active and sustainable labour market policies should be increased;

and effectiveness of active and sustainable labour market policies should be increased *with focus on environmental, employer, worker, health and consumer protection;*

Or. en

**Amendment 61**  
**Yana Toom**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 3**

*Draft opinion*

3. Considers that the scope, efficiency and effectiveness of active and sustainable labour market policies should be increased;

*Amendment*

3. Considers that the scope, efficiency and effectiveness of active and sustainable labour market policies should be increased; *takes the view that the phenomenon of in-work poverty shall be addressed;*

Or. en

**Amendment 62**  
**Georgi Pirinski**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 3**

*Draft opinion*

3. Considers that the scope, efficiency and effectiveness of active and sustainable labour market policies should be increased;

*Amendment*

3. Considers that the scope, efficiency and effectiveness of active and sustainable labour market policies *as well as the public funding for them* should be increased;

Or. en

**Amendment 63**  
**Lynn Boylan**

**Draft opinion**

### Paragraph 3

*Draft opinion*

3. Considers that *the scope, efficiency and effectiveness of active and sustainable labour market policies should be increased*;

*Amendment*

3. Considers that *sustainable labour market policies should be increased and notes that the wage share in the EU15 has been stagnant since 2011*;

Or. en

### Amendment 64

Sofia Ribeiro, Sven Giegold, Ramón Luis Valcárcel Siso, Marie-Christine Vergiat, Jens Nilsson, Elena Gentile

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 3 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**3a.** *Regrets that the social economy has been overlooked by the Commission in its package of assessments/recommendations; points out that this sector encompasses 2 million businesses employing more than 14 million people and contributing to the achievement of the 2020 targets; calls on the Commission and the Member States to give social economy enterprises greater recognition and a higher profile, through a European Action Plan for the social economy; considers that this lack of recognition makes it harder for them to access funding; calls on the Commission to come forward with a proposal for a European statute for associations, foundations and mutual societies;*

Or. en

### Amendment 65

Maria Arena, Joachim Schuster, Brando Benifei, Evelyn Regner, Elena Gentile, Jutta Steinruck

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 3 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**3a.** *In this context, recalls the need to support and enhance social dialogue which plays a critical role in achieving high-level working conditions; emphasises that labour law and high social standards have a crucial role to play in rebalancing economies, supporting incomes and encouraging investment in capacity; stresses that EU law and policy documents must respect trade union rights and freedoms, comply with collective agreements and uphold equal treatment of workers;*

Or. en

**Amendment 66**  
**Tamás Meszerics**  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 3 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**3a.** *Points out that the European economy has not recovered enough to provide employment for all job seekers and unemployed; stresses that alongside job creation, including through public investment, integrating those further from the labour market through individually tailored measures benefits the individual, stabilises social security and supports the economy;*

Or. en

**Amendment 67**  
**Sofia Ribeiro**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 3 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**3a. Stresses the importance of increasing public investment and enhancing private-sector involvement in economic and social development;**

Or. pt

**Amendment 68**  
**Maria Arena, Joachim Schuster, Brando Benifei, Evelyn Regner, Elena Gentile, Jutta Steinruck**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 3 b (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**3b. Calls on the Commission to build on the resolution of the European Parliament by putting forward ambitious proposals, including a framework directive on decent working conditions and a Social Protocol, for a strong European Pillar of Social Rights and full pursuit of the Treaties' social objectives in order to improve everyone's living and working conditions and provide good opportunities for all;**

Or. en

**Amendment 69**  
**Sofia Ribeiro**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 3 c (new)**



*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**3c. *Calls on the Member States and the Commission to make every effort to reduce the resulting administrative burden and financial cost to the business sector, especially micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, and to repeal legislation resulting in excessive bureaucracy, thereby boosting growth and employment;***

Or. pt

**Amendment 70**

**Maria Arena, Joachim Schuster, Flavio Zanonato, Brando Benifei, Evelyn Regner, Elena Gentile, Jutta Steinruck**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 3 c (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**3c. *Warns about the declining wage share in the EU, the widening wage and income inequalities and the increase of in work-poverty; recalls that the United Nations' Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UN, 1948) recognizes the need for workers to earn a living wage as does the ILO Constitution (ILO, 1919) and that all human rights declarations agree that remuneration should be sufficient to support a family;***

Or. en

**Amendment 71**

**Maria Arena, Joachim Schuster, Brando Benifei, Evelyn Regner, Elena Gentile, Jutta Steinruck**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 3 d (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**3d.** *stresses that wages must enable workers to meet their needs and those of their families and that every worker in the European Union should receive a living wage that provides not only for the mere necessities of basic food, shelter and clothing, but that it is also sufficient to cover healthcare, education, transportation, recreation and some savings to help provide for unforeseen events, such as illnesses and accidents; emphasises that this is the decent living standard that living wages should provide for workers and their families in the EU;*

Or. en

**Amendment 72**

**Maria Arena, Joachim Schuster, Brando Benifei, Evelyn Regner, Elena Gentile, Jutta Steinruck**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 3 e (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**3e.** *Asks the Commission to study how to identify what a living wage could encompass and how it should be measured, serving as a reference tool for social partners and help to exchange best practices in this regard;*

Or. en

**Amendment 73**

**Maria Arena, Joachim Schuster, Flavio Zanonato, Brando Benifei, Evelyn Regner, Elena Gentile, Jutta Steinruck**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 3 f (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**3f. Recalls that decent wages are important not only for social cohesion, but also for maintaining a strong economy and a productive labour force; calls on the Commission and the Member States to implement measures to improve job quality and reduce wage dispersion, including by raising wage floors also in the form of, where applicable, minimum wages set at decent levels;**

Or. en

**Amendment 74**

**Maria Arena, Joachim Schuster, Flavio Zanonato, Brando Benifei, Evelyn Regner, Elena Gentile, Jutta Steinruck**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 3 g (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**3g. Calls for policies that respect, promote and strengthen collective bargaining and workers' position in wage-setting systems which play a critical role in achieving high level working conditions; believes all this should be done with a view to supporting aggregate demand and economic recovery, reducing wage inequalities and fighting in-work poverty; stresses in this context, that European legislation and policies must respect trade union rights and freedom, comply with collective agreements and uphold equal treatments of workers;**

Or. en

**Amendment 75**

**Maria Arena, Joachim Schuster, Brando Benifei, Evelyn Regner, Elena Gentile, Jutta Steinruck**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 3 h (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**3h.** *Warns that excessive levels of top managers' pay come not only at the expense of the shareholders but at the expense of workers; highlights that this excessive dispersion in wages is unethical, increases inequalities and damages productivity and competitiveness of companies; calls on the Commission to present a proposal to adopt at European level a legal obligation requiring listed as well as public companies to disclose the annual total compensation of the chief executive officer (CEO) and the top managers and the median of the annual compensation of all other employees of the company;*

Or. en

**Amendment 76**  
**Maria Arena, Joachim Schuster, Brando Benifei, Evelyn Regner, Elena Gentile, Jutta Steinruck**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 3 i (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**3i.** *Highlights the importance of the automatic stabilisation dimension of welfare systems to absorb social shock waves caused by external effects as recessions; calls therefore on the Member states to introduce policies to re-establish security in employment by providing proactive protection, including in case of dismissals; with a view to ILO Recommendation No 202 which defines the social protection floors, calls also on the member states to ensure and increase*

*their investment in social protection systems in order to guarantee their performance in tackling and preventing poverty and inequalities while ensuring their sustainability;*

Or. en

**Amendment 77**

**Maria Arena, Joachim Schuster, Flavio Zanonato, Brando Benifei, Evelyn Regner, Elena Gentile, Jutta Steinruck**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 3 j (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**3j. Highlights that universal access to public, solidarity-based and adequate retirement and old age pensions must be granted to all; acknowledges the challenges faced by Member States to strengthen the sustainability of pension systems but stresses the importance of safeguarding the solidarity in the pension systems by strengthening the revenue side without necessarily increasing the retirement age;**

Or. en

**Amendment 78**

**Maria Arena, Joachim Schuster, Brando Benifei, Evelyn Regner, Elena Gentile, Jutta Steinruck**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 3 k (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**3k. Underlines the importance of public and occupational pension systems which provide an adequate retirement income well above the poverty threshold**

*and allow pensioners to maintain their standard of living; believes that the best way to ensure sustainable, safe and adequate pensions for women and men is to increase the overall employment rate and quality jobs across all ages, improving working and employment conditions, and by committing the necessary supplementary public spending; believes that reforms of pension systems should focus amongst others on the effective retirement age and reflect labour market trends, birth rates, the health and wealth situation, working conditions and the economic dependency ratio;*

Or. en

**Amendment 79**

**Maria Arena, Joachim Schuster, Brando Benifei, Evelyn Regner, Elena Gentile, Jutta Steinruck**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 3 l (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*3l. Considers that these reforms must also take account of the situation of millions of workers in Europe, particularly women, youngsters and self-employed, suffering insecure, atypical employment, periods of involuntary unemployment and working-time reduction;*

Or. en

**Amendment 80**

**Maria Arena, Joachim Schuster, Brando Benifei, Evelyn Regner, Elena Gentile, Jutta Steinruck**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 3 m (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**3m.** *Calls on the Commission to continue to pay particular attention to the improvement of childcare services and to flexible working time arrangements, to the needs of ageing men and women and other dependent persons as regards long-term care;*

Or. en

**Amendment 81**

**Maria Arena, Joachim Schuster, Flavio Zanonato, Brando Benifei, Evelyn Regner, Elena Gentile, Jutta Steinruck**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 3 n (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**3n.** *Deplores the persistence of the gender pay and pension gap; calls on the EU and the Member States, in cooperation with the social partners and gender equality organisations, to set out and implement policies to close the gender pay and pension gap; calls on the Member States to carry out wage-mapping on a regular basis as a complement to these efforts;*

Or. en

**Amendment 82**

**Maria Arena, Joachim Schuster, Evelyn Regner, Jutta Steinruck**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 4**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**4.** *Highlights the fact that insufficient and inadequately focused*

*deleted*

*investment in digital skills and programming may undermine the Union's competitive position;*

Or. en

**Amendment 83**  
**Yana Toom**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 4**

*Draft opinion*

4. Highlights the fact that insufficient and inadequately focused investment in digital skills and programming may undermine the Union's competitive position;

*Amendment*

4. ***Takes the view that access to and quality of education should be improved;*** highlights the fact that insufficient and inadequately focused investment in digital skills and programming may undermine the Union's competitive position; ***calls on the Commission to develop a pan-European skills need forecasting tool; urges the Commission to put in place all suitable mechanisms for greater mobility among young people, apprenticeships included; calls for better coordination between national employment services;***

Or. en

**Amendment 84**  
**Marian Harkin**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 4**

*Draft opinion*

4. Highlights the fact that insufficient and inadequately focused investment in digital skills and programming may undermine the Union's competitive position;

*Amendment*

4. Highlights the fact that insufficient and inadequately focused investment in ***skills development and lifelong learning, particularly*** digital skills and programming may undermine the Union's competitive position; ***notes that inequality***



*has intensified in around ten Member States and is one of the main socio-economic challenges in the EU<sup>1c</sup>;*

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*<sup>1c</sup> Employment and Social Developments in Europe, Annual Review 2017(ESDE),P47*

Or. en

**Amendment 85**  
**Tamás Meszerics**  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 4**

*Draft opinion*

4. Highlights the fact that insufficient and inadequately focused investment in digital skills and programming may undermine the Union's competitive position;

*Amendment*

4. Highlights the fact that insufficient and inadequately focused investment in digital **and green job** skills and programming may undermine the Union's competitive position; ***calls on the Commission to help foster skills development through the updating of qualifications and corresponding education and training curricula at EU level;***

Or. en

**Amendment 86**  
**Dominique Martin, Joëlle Mélin, Mara Bizzotto**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 4**

*Draft opinion*

4. Highlights the fact that insufficient and inadequately focused investment in digital skills **and programming** may

*Amendment*

4. Highlights the fact that insufficient and inadequately focused investment in digital skills, **industry and research** may

undermine the Union's competitive position;

undermine the Union's competitive position;

Or. fr

### **Amendment 87**

**Dominique Martin, Joëlle Mélin, Mara Bizzotto**

#### **Draft opinion**

#### **Paragraph 4 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***4a. Points out that the growing inequalities and unemployment in the Member States show clearly that the EU and its policies have not encouraged progress but rather a constant erosion of social rights, devaluation of work, social insecurity and poverty; reiterates that the Member States play a key role in contributing to growth and employment in the European Union and that they have to be free to implement anti-cyclical economic policies to protect the purchasing power of wages, boost domestic demand and create decent jobs;***

Or. fr

### **Amendment 88**

**Maria Arena, Joachim Schuster, Brando Benifei, Evelyn Regner, Elena Gentile, Jutta Steinruck**

#### **Draft opinion**

#### **Paragraph 4 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***4a. Regrets that the increase in the employment rate has been accompanied by the increase of atypical, precarious and non-formal forms of employment, zero-hour contracts included and the***

*weakening of social dialogue; encourages the Member States to make further efforts in order to reach the Europe 2020 employment rate target of 75 % while guaranteeing European citizens the best quality of life via quality and inclusive jobs;*

Or. en

**Amendment 89**  
**Sofia Ribeiro**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 4 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*4a. Underlines the profound changes ushering in the labour market of the future following the emergence of artificial intelligence; calls on Member States and the Commission to develop instruments and cooperative initiatives, involving the social partners, to enhance skills in this sector by means of preliminary, initial and ongoing training;*

Or. pt

**Amendment 90**  
**Maria Arena, Joachim Schuster, Brando Benifei, Evelyn Regner, Elena Gentile, Jutta Steinruck**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 4 b (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*4b. Underlines that the implementation of the Youth Guarantee should be strengthened at national, regional and local level, and stresses its importance for school-to-work*

*transitions; points out that special attention has to be paid to young women and girls, who could face gender-related barriers to obtaining a good-quality offer of employment, continued education, an apprenticeship or a traineeship; emphasises the need to ensure that the Youth Guarantee reaches young people facing multiple exclusions and extreme poverty;*

Or. en

**Amendment 91**  
**Sofia Ribeiro**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 4 b (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*4b. To this end and also as a means achieving work-life balance, calls for consideration to be given to flexicurity arrangements, including teleworking and flexitime, in consultation with the social partners;*

Or. pt

**Amendment 92**  
**Maria Arena, Joachim Schuster, Brando Benifei, Evelyn Regner, Elena Gentile, Jutta Steinruck**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 4 c (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*4c. Stresses the need to guarantee suitable forms of collaboration between public and private employment services and individualised and mainstream social support services; highlights that a better*

*collaboration of public administrations and stakeholders at the local level and better synergies among levels of governments would increase the outreach and the impact of the programmes;*

Or. en

**Amendment 93**

**Sofia Ribeiro**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 4 c (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*4c. Highlights the importance of investment in human capital a driving force behind development, competitiveness and growth;*

Or. pt

**Amendment 94**

**Maria Arena, Joachim Schuster, Evelyn Regner, Jutta Steinruck**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 4 d (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*4d. Regrets that in some member states the youth guarantee has failed to deliver the expected results; regrets also that the financing of the youth guarantee had not been enough to effectively address the issue and the lack of coordination on the use that member states have done with the funding; reiterates its continuous call for a European framework for introducing minimum standards for the implementation of youth guarantee;*

**Amendment 95**

**Maria Arena, Joachim Schuster, Flavio Zanonato, Brando Benifei, Evelyn Regner, Elena Gentile, Jutta Steinruck**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 4 e (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***4e. Emphasises that a better work-life balance and strengthened gender equality are essential for supporting the participation of women in the labour market; underlines that the key to women's economic empowerment is the transformation and adaptation of the labour market and welfare systems in order to take into account women's life cycles;***

**Amendment 96**

**Maria Arena, Joachim Schuster, Flavio Zanonato, Brando Benifei, Evelyn Regner, Elena Gentile, Jutta Steinruck**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 4 f (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***4f. Welcomes the proposal for the Work-life balance Directive as a positive first step forward in ensuring reconciliation of the work and private lives for men and women caring for their children and other dependants and increasing the participation of women on the labour market although regretting that no progress on the maternity leave has been made; insists however that securing appropriate remuneration and strong social security and protection are***

*key to achieving these goals;*

Or. en

**Amendment 97**

**Maria Arena, Joachim Schuster, Brando Benifei, Evelyn Regner, Elena Gentile, Jutta Steinruck**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 4 g (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***4g. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to develop transformative policies and to invest in awareness-raising campaigns to overcome gender stereotypes and to promote a more equal sharing of care and domestic work, focusing also on the right of and need for men to take up care responsibilities without being stigmatised or penalised;***

Or. en

**Amendment 98**

**Maria Arena, Joachim Schuster, Brando Benifei, Evelyn Regner, Elena Gentile, Jutta Steinruck**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 4 h (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***4h. Calls on the Member States to put in place proactive policies and appropriate investment aimed and designed to support women and men entering, returning to, staying and advancing in the labour market, after periods of family and care-related types of leave, with sustainable and quality employment, in line with Article 27 of the European Social Charter; stresses in particular the need to***

*guarantee reinstatement to the same post or to an equivalent or similar post, protection against dismissal and less favourable treatment as a result of pregnancy, applying for or taking family leave, and a protection period after their return so that they can readjust to their job; reiterates that changes in working hours and/or routines on the return to work (including the need for the employer to justify a refusal) and training periods should also be guaranteed;*

Or. en

#### **Amendment 99**

**Maria Arena, Joachim Schuster, Flavio Zanonato, Brando Benifei, Evelyn Regner, Elena Gentile, Jutta Steinruck**

#### **Draft opinion**

#### **Paragraph 4 i (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*4i. Calls on the Member States to step up protection against discrimination and unlawful dismissal related to work-life balance, calls in this context on the Commission and the Member States to propose policies to improve enforcement of anti-discrimination measures in the workplace, including increasing the awareness of legal rights regarding equal treatment by conducting information campaigns, reversal of the burden of proof and empowering national equality bodies to conduct formal investigations on their own initiative of equality issues and help potential victims of discrimination;*

Or. en

#### **Amendment 100**



**Maria Arena, Joachim Schuster, Brando Benifei, Evelyn Regner, Elena Gentile, Jutta Steinruck**

**Draft opinion  
Paragraph 4 j (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**4j. Considers that promoting women's participation in the labour market would boost GDP; calls, therefore, on the Commission and the Member States to strengthen policies and increase investment supporting female employment in quality jobs, particularly in sectors and positions where women are under-represented, such as the science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) and green economy sectors, or senior management positions across all sectors;**

Or. en

**Amendment 101**

**Maria Arena, Joachim Schuster, Flavio Zanonato, Brando Benifei, Evelyn Regner, Elena Gentile, Jutta Steinruck**

**Draft opinion  
Paragraph 4 k (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**4k. Underlines that the integration of long-term unemployed individuals through individually tailored measures is a key factor for fighting poverty and social exclusion and will ultimately contribute towards contributing to the sustainability of national social security systems; considers that necessary, taking into account the social situation of these citizens and their needs in terms of sufficient incomes, adequate housing, public transport, health and childcare as well as a better monitoring at the**

*European level of the policies  
implemented at the national level;*

Or. en

**Amendment 102**

**Maria Arena, Joachim Schuster, Brando Benifei, Evelyn Regner, Elena Gentile, Jutta Steinruck**

**Draft opinion  
Paragraph 4 l (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*4l. Notes that an increased effort is required in many Member States to educate the workforce, including adult education and vocational training opportunities; puts emphasis on life-long learning, including for women, as it gives the opportunity to re-skill in the ever-changing labour market; calls for an increase in the promotion of STEM subjects aimed at girls to address existing education stereotypes and combat long-term gender employment, pay and pensions gaps;*

Or. en

**Amendment 103**

**Maria Arena, Joachim Schuster, Flavio Zanonato, Brando Benifei, Evelyn Regner, Elena Gentile, Jutta Steinruck**

**Draft opinion  
Paragraph 4 m (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*4m. Recalls that the role of Member States is to guarantee an access to quality education and training at affordable cost notwithstanding the labour market need across the EU;*

**Amendment 104**

**Maria Arena, Joachim Schuster, Brando Benifei, Evelyn Regner, Elena Gentile, Jutta Steinruck**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 4 n (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***4n. Calls on the Commission and Member States to fully implement the Recommendation on Investing in Children and closely monitor its progress; calls on the Commission and the Member States to develop and introduce initiatives, such as a Child Guarantee, placing children in the centre of existing poverty alleviation policies and ensuring dedicated resources necessary for its full implementation;***

Or. en

**Amendment 105**

**Maria Arena, Joachim Schuster, Brando Benifei, Evelyn Regner, Elena Gentile, Jutta Steinruck**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 4 o (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

***4o. Stresses the need to invest in people as early as possible in the life cycle to reduce inequality and foster social inclusion at a young age; stresses also the need to fight against stereotypes from the youngest age at school by promoting gender equality at all level of education; calls therefore for access to quality, inclusive and affordable early childhood education and care services for all***

*children in all member states;*

Or. en

**Amendment 106**

**Maria Arena, Joachim Schuster, Brando Benifei, Evelyn Regner, Elena Gentile, Jutta Steinruck**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 4 p (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**4p. *Calls on the Member states to support apprenticeship and to fully use the Erasmus+ funds available for apprentices in order to guarantee the quality and attractiveness of this kind of training;***

Or. en

**Amendment 107**

**Tamás Meszerics**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 5**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

5. Takes the view that better skills matching and improved mutual recognition of qualifications is necessary to address skills shortages and mismatches; calls on the Commission to develop a pan-European skills needs forecasting tool;

5. Takes the view that better skills matching and improved mutual recognition of qualifications is necessary to address skills shortages and mismatches; calls on the Commission to develop a pan-European skills needs forecasting tool, ***including the skills needed in growing sectors, such as the low carbon and circular economy; believes that in order to anticipate future skills needs, all labour market stakeholders must be strongly involved at all levels;***

**Amendment 108**  
**Marian Harkin**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 5**

*Draft opinion*

5. Takes the view that better skills matching and improved mutual recognition of qualifications is necessary to address skills shortages and mismatches; calls on the Commission to develop a pan-European skills needs forecasting tool;

*Amendment*

5. Takes the view that better skills matching and improved mutual recognition of qualifications is necessary to address skills shortages and mismatches; ***highlights the role that VET and apprenticeships can play in this regard;*** calls on the Commission to develop a pan-European skills needs forecasting tool;

**Amendment 109**  
**Dominique Martin, Joëlle Mélin, Mara Bizzotto**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 5**

*Draft opinion*

5. Takes the view that better skills matching and improved mutual recognition of qualifications is necessary to address skills shortages and mismatches; ***calls on the Commission to develop a pan-European skills needs forecasting tool;***

*Amendment*

5. Takes the view that better skills matching and improved mutual recognition of qualifications is necessary to address skills shortages and mismatches; ***stresses that the massive influx of low-skilled populations from outside of Europe will make this situation worse;***

**Amendment 110**  
**Maria Arena, Joachim Schuster, Brando Benifei, Evelyn Regner, Elena Gentile, Jutta Steinruck**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 5 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*5a. Notes the importance of skills and competences acquired in non-formal and informal learning environments ;stresses, therefore, the importance of creating a validation system for non-formal and informal forms of knowledge, especially those acquired via voluntary activities; insists in the implementation of the lifelong learning framework approach on a flexible education path recognizing formal, but also non formal and informal learning to foster equity and social cohesion and allowing employment opportunities for more vulnerable groups;*

Or. en

**Amendment 111**  
**Tamás Meszerics**  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 5 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*5a. Calls on the social partners and the Commission to prepare in collaboration and the Commission to present a framework directive on decent working conditions in all forms of work, extending minimum standards to new forms of labour; stresses the importance of the joint understanding of new forms of employment and work, and the importance of collecting comparable data on this issue, in order to increase the efficiency of labour market legislation, therefore to increase employment and sustainable growth;*

**Amendment 112**  
**Tamás Meszerics**  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 5 b (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**5b.** *Calls for joint efforts to reduce gender based inequalities in Member States and for continuous support for designated, locally adjusted plans to reduce gender employment, pay and pension gaps through economic policies;*

Or. en

**Amendment 113**  
**Tamás Meszerics**  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

6. Calls for an integrated anti-poverty strategy in order to achieve the Europe 2020 poverty target; underlines the role of Member States' minimum income schemes in seeking to reduce poverty.

6. Calls for an integrated anti-poverty strategy in order to achieve the Europe 2020 poverty target; underlines the role of Member States' minimum income schemes in seeking to reduce poverty; ***calls on the Commission to submit a proposal for a framework directive on adequate minimum income schemes in the European Union, which should lay down common rules and indicators including reference budgets, and provide methods for monitoring its implementation; requests Member States to work towards the progressive realisation of adequate minimum income schemes addressing the issues of adequacy, coverage and take-up***

*of the schemes; considers that adequate minimum income is an income that is indispensable to live a life in dignity and to fully participate in society, across the life span; points out that in order to be adequate, it has to be above the poverty line in order to meet people's fundamental needs, including also non-monetary aspects, such as access to education and lifelong learning, decent housing, quality healthcare services, social activities or civic participation;*

Or. en

#### **Amendment 114**

**Dominique Martin, Joëlle Mélin**

#### **Draft opinion**

#### **Paragraph 6**

##### *Draft opinion*

6. Calls for *an integrated anti-poverty strategy in order to achieve the Europe 2020 poverty target*; underlines the role of Member States' minimum income schemes in seeking to reduce poverty.

##### *Amendment*

6. Calls for *a relentless fight against poverty; stresses that the 119 million Europeans at risk of poverty shall not find themselves at a disadvantage compared to newly arrived migrants*; underlines the role of Member States' minimum income schemes in seeking to reduce poverty; *reiterates that minimum income policies fall within the national competences of Member States, and that the European Union does not have any authority to impose a system of any kind*;

Or. fr

#### **Amendment 115**

**Sofia Ribeiro**

#### **Draft opinion**

#### **Paragraph 6**



*Draft opinion*

6. Calls for an integrated anti-poverty strategy in order to achieve the Europe 2020 poverty target; underlines the role of Member States' minimum income schemes in seeking to reduce poverty.

*Amendment*

6. Calls for an integrated anti-poverty strategy in order to achieve the Europe 2020 poverty target; underlines the role of Member States' minimum income schemes in seeking to reduce poverty, *especially when combined with social inclusion measures that involve the beneficiaries;*

Or. pt

**Amendment 116**

**Dominique Martin, Joëlle Mélin**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 6 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*6a. Takes the view that the European Central Bank's policy of printing money poses a significant risk to the economic stability of the euro area, as undermining the value of Europeans' assets has led to non-European interests taking control of a great many European companies without any positive outcome for EU jobs; calls on the European Central Bank to set a target for growth in employment rates for Europeans;*

Or. fr

**Amendment 117**

**Tamás Meszerics**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 6 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*6a. Calls for more efficient, targeted*

*and more carefully monitored use of the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESI Funds) by national, regional and local authorities in order to promote investment in quality social, health, education and employment services, and to tackle energy poverty, increasing living costs, social exclusion, housing deprivation, and the insufficient quality of the housing stock;*

Or. en

**Amendment 118**  
**Sofia Ribeiro**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*6a. Points to the need for the coordination at European level regarding the management of social security systems, for which the Member States are responsible; stresses the absolute priority of ensuring the sustainability of social security systems, this being a central pillar of the European social model;*

Or. pt

**Amendment 119**  
**Marian Harkin**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*6a. Calls on Member States to ensure adequate and sustainable pensions in light of continued demographic change; in this regard, highlights the importance*

*of older workers continued participation and women's integration into the labour market to combat old age poverty;*

Or. en

**Amendment 120**  
**Lynn Boylan**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*6a. highlights the low level of public investment within EU15 and calls for greater public investment in employment, focused and sustainable activities including decarbonisation and low carbon productive sectors;*

Or. en

**Amendment 121**  
**Sofia Ribeiro, Sergio Gutiérrez Prieto**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6 d (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

*6d. Calls on the Member States to establish specific investment programmes for their regions whose unemployment, youth unemployment and long-term unemployment rates exceed 30 %;*

Or. en

**Amendment 122**  
**Yana Toom**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6 a (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**6a.** *Calls on the Member States to set minimum social standards;*

Or. en

**Amendment 123**  
**Sofia Ribeiro**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6 b (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**6b.** *Deplores the fact that, in its package of recommendations, the Commission has disregarded Parliament's request to step up the implementation of Article 349 TFEU, in particular through the adoption of specific measures designed to integrate the outermost regions more closely into the EU; notes that these regions have their own particular characteristics and constraints, with unemployment at over the 30 % mark; stresses the need for differentiated measures and programmes to reduce asymmetries and thereby maximise social cohesion in the EU;*

Or. pt

**Amendment 124**  
**Dominique Martin, Joëlle Mélin, Mara Bizzotto**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6 b (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**6b.** *Takes the view that those responsible for the 2008 financial crisis, which resulted in massive unemployment in Europe and the transfer of astronomical amounts of private bank debts to EU taxpayers, ought to have severe penalties imposed on them and be debarred from working in the banking sector;*

Or. fr

**Amendment 125**  
**Tamás Meszerics**  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6 b (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**6b.** *Deplores that the Commission's and the Council's goals regarding the fiscal consolidation processes do not prioritize the reduction of social inequalities and demands that this is changed;*

Or. en

**Amendment 126**  
**Lynn Boylan**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6 b (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**6b.** *Calls on Member States to invest in public childcare thereby improving the opportunities for workers, particularly women to re-enter the workforce;*

Or. en

**Amendment 127**  
**Tamás Meszerics**  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6 c (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**6c. *Calls on the Commission to devote next Spring Council to social investment in the sectors where strong evidence exists that it promotes social and economic returns (e.g. early childhood education and care, primary and secondary education, training and active labour market policies, affordable and social housing, and healthcare);***

Or. en

**Amendment 128**  
**Sofia Ribeiro**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6 c (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**6c. *Regrets that Parliament's position, after being adopted in plenary, will have little possibility of influencing the CSRs under discussion; calls for an agenda focusing more closely on Parliament's position and taking in into account before a decision is reached; calls for the strengthening of the role of the EPSCO Council in the European Semester;***

Or. pt

**Amendment 129**

**Dominique Martin, Joëlle Mélin, Mara Bizzotto**

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6 c (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**6c. Calls for Eurostat to consolidate the economic figures of EU countries outside the euro area as a basis for informed decision-making;**

Or. fr

**Amendment 130**  
**Tamás Meszerics**  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6 d (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**6d. Calls on the Commission and Council to adopt a ‘golden’ rule ensuring that Member State’s social investment level do not fall under a previously adopted benchmark of social investment; calls on the Commission and Council to adopt the ‘silver’ rule on social investment to be applied when implementing the Stability and Growth Pact, namely to allow and incentivise Member States to pursue higher levels of public social investment in the sectors where it generates a positive impact on economic growth;**

Or. en

**Amendment 131**  
**Tamás Meszerics**  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6 e (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**6e. Urges the Commission to set up a forum, with independent experts and relevant stakeholders, to develop a methodology to measure the economic and social returns of social investment in the five above-mentioned piloting sectors;**

Or. en

**Amendment 132**  
**Tamás Meszerics**  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6 f (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**6f. Recalls that, as stated by Parliament, socially responsible reforms must be based on solidarity, integration, social justice and a fair distribution of wealth, a model that ensures equality and social protection, protects vulnerable groups and improves living standards for all citizens;**

Or. en

**Amendment 133**  
**Tamás Meszerics**  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Draft opinion**  
**Paragraph 6 g (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**6g. Calls for the completion of the EMU with full transparency towards non-**



*euro area Member States;*

Or. en

**Amendment 134**

**Tamás Meszerics**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Philippe Lamberts**

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 6 h (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**6h. Calls on the Commission, after due consultation of the civil society, notably the social partners, to submit a proposal by 2020 to the European Parliament and the Council, to establish a European Unemployment Insurance scheme, complementing national benefit schemes; considers that such an appropriately funded automatic stabiliser can play an important role in reducing inequality between countries and in neutralising the consequences arising from the absorption of asymmetric shocks; this scheme should be targeted to Eurozone countries, with the possibility for other Member States to join afterwards;**

Or. en

**Amendment 135**

**Tamás Meszerics**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Draft opinion**

**Paragraph 6 i (new)**

*Draft opinion*

*Amendment*

**6i. Calls for additional joint efforts to**

*improve the integration of migrants and people with a migrant background into the labour market.*

Or. en