

Newsletter - issue XXIII - November 2016

## Introductory words by Thomas Händel

The first EMPL Committee meeting of the month will take place on 7 and 8 November. It will start with a hearing on Health and safety related to the new generation jobs, followed by exchanges of views with the directors of the Global Indicators Group and the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights. We will also hold our second European Youth Event follow-up hearing and exchange views with representatives of the European Commission on a Commission Delegated Regulation.



Furthermore, there will be an exchange of views on the Posting of workers in the framework of the provision of services, and the Committee will consider the amendments tabled to the draft report on A European Pillar of Social Rights. Finally, it will adopt the question for oral answer on Establishing a Skills Guarantee.

During the Committee meeting on 29 November, there will be an exchange of views with Commissioner Malmström on the social and labour aspects of international trade negotiations and agreements. In addition, Members will consider the draft report on the Amendment to Directive 2004/37/EC on the protection of workers from the risks related to exposure to carcinogens or mutagens at work. Finally, the EMPL Committee will vote on the motion for resolution and oral question on European Qualifications Framework for lifelong learning.

During the last plenary session, the **resolution on Parliament's position on the EU budget for 2017** was approved. Among other things, **MEPs call for an extra €1.5 billion to be made available to fund the Youth Employment Initiative.**

I would also like to announce that on 17 November, the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions (Eurofound) and the EMPL Committee will hold a joint conference on Changing working conditions in Europe: Moving towards better work.

Finally, let me inform you that the biannual Tripartite Social Summit took place on 19 October. The guiding theme was 'Addressing Europe's common challenges: generating growth, creating jobs and ensuring fairness', and discussions focussed on the European Semester, the New Skills Agenda for Europe and the integration of refugees into the labour market.

Thank you for your attention.

Thomas Händel, Chair

## POINTS ON THE COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

### Hearing

[Health and safety related to the new generation jobs](#)

### Reports

[A European Pillar of Social Rights](#)

[Posting of workers in the framework of the provision of services](#)

[Amendment to Directive 2004/37/EC on the protection of workers from the risks related to exposure to carcinogens or mutagens at work](#)

### Opinions

[Civil Law Rules on Robotics \(vote\)](#)

[Establishment of the Structural Reform Support Programme for the period 2017 to 2020 \(vote\)](#)

[Implementation report on Erasmus + \(vote\)](#)

[Need for an EU strategy to end and prevent the gender pension gap \(vote\)](#)

[EU flagship initiative on the garment sector](#)

[Motions for resolutions and oral questions](#)

[Establishing a Skills Guarantee \(vote\)](#)

[European Qualifications Framework for lifelong learning \(vote\)](#)

[Exchange of views](#)

[Exchange of views with Commissioner Malmström](#)

[Exchange of views on the World Bank Group's Doing Business report 2017](#)

[Exchange of views with the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights Amendment to the Commission Delegated Regulation \(EU\) No 2015/2195 of 9 July 2015 on supplementing Regulation \(EU\) No 1304/2013](#)

[European Youth Event \(EYE\) follow-up hearing](#)

### Conferences

[Joint Eurofound-EMPL conference on Changing working conditions in Europe: Moving towards better work](#)

### Meeting dates and venues:

07.11.2016, 15.00-18.30, Brussels, JAN 4Q1

08.11.2016, 9.00-12.30 and 15.00-18.30, Brussels, JAN 4Q1

29.11.2016, 9.00-12.30 and 15.00-18.30, Brussels, JAN 4Q1

## Health and safety related to the new generation jobs

### Hearing



The [hearing](#) on Health and safety related to the new generation jobs will take place on 7 November. It aims to discuss how technological and other developments in the labour market are creating new challenges for health and safety policy and what might be appropriate responses.

## Trade Commissioner Malmström

### Exchange of views

Cecilia Malmström, Commissioner for Trade, will participate in the EMPL meeting on 29 November to discuss the social and labour aspects of trade negotiations and agreements such as CETA, TTIP, TISA or GATS. Members of the INTA Committee will join the debate.

## World Bank Group's Doing Business report 2017

### Exchange of views

On 7 November, Augusto Lopez-Claros, Director of the Global Indicators Group at the World Bank Group, will present the report '[Doing Business 2017](#)'. It is the 14th in a series of annual reports measuring the regulations that enhance business activity and those that constrain it. The 2017 edition discusses, among other things, the role of business regulation in reducing income inequality.

## Michael O'Flaherty, Director of the Fundamental Rights Agency

### Exchange of views

[Michael O'Flaherty](#), Director of the [European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights](#), will take part in the EMPL meeting on 8 November. The aim of this exchange of views is to discuss issues falling **within the agency's remit** and, in particular, recent cases of severe labour exploitation in certain EU Member States.

## Amendment to the Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 2015/2195 of 9 July 2015 on supplementing Regulation (EU) No 1304/2013

### Exchange of views

On 8 November, the European Commission will make a presentation on the Amendment to the Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 2015/2195 of 9 July 2015 on supplementing Regulation (EU) No 1304/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the European Social Fund, regarding the definition of standard scales of unit costs and lump sums for reimbursement of expenditure by the Commission to Member States.

## European Youth Event (EYE) follow-up hearing

### Exchange of views

The second edition of the [European Youth Event](#) (EYE) took place in May 2016 and gathered over 7 500 young people who



discussed ideas and proposals "for tomorrow's Europe". On 8 November, the EMPL Committee will organise a Youth hearing to ensure a good follow-up of this event. At this occasion, three EYE-participants will present six ideas discussed during the Youth Event related to the following topics: migrants and the labour market;

skills development as a means of tackling youth unemployment; and young entrepreneurs and start-ups.

## Posting of workers in the framework of the provision of services

### Exchange of views

On 8 November, there will be an exchange of views with stakeholders on the posting of workers.

Co-rapporteurs: [Elisabeth Morin-Chartier](#) (EPP, FR) and [Agnes Jongerius](#) (S&D, NL)

## Amendment to Directive 2004/37/EC on the protection of workers from the risks related to exposure to carcinogens or mutagens at work

### Consideration of draft report

On 29 November, EMPL Members will consider the draft report on the Amendment to Directive 2004/37/EC on the protection of workers from the risks related to exposure to carcinogens or mutagens at work. An exchange of views with stakeholders on this issue took place during the EMPL meeting on 13 October.

Rapporteur: [Marita Ulvskog](#) (S&D, SE)

## A European Pillar of Social Rights

### Consideration of amendments

The [draft report](#) on A European Pillar of Social Rights was presented in EMPL on 26 September, when a deadline for tabling amendments was set. Members tabled 1 119 amendments, which will be discussed on 7 November.

Rapporteur: [Maria João Rodrigues](#) (S&D, PT)

## Establishing a Skills Guarantee

### Adoption of oral question

On 8 November, the EMPL Committee will adopt an oral question which concerns **the European Commission's initiative** to set up a [Skills Guarantee](#).

## European Qualifications Framework for lifelong learning

Adoption of oral question and motion for resolution

The EMPL Committee's question for oral answer and draft motion for a resolution, which will be adopted on 29 November, concern the proposed revision of the [European Qualifications Framework for Lifelong Learning](#) (EQF).

## EU flagship initiative on the garment sector

Consideration of draft opinion



On 29 November, the EMPL Committee will consider the draft opinion to the DEVE report on an EU flagship initiative on the garment sector.

Rapporteur: [Jean Lambert](#) (Greens/EFA, UK)

## Votes on draft opinions

During its meetings in November, the EMPL Committee will vote on the following opinions:

Civil Law Rules on Robotics

Rapporteur: [Ádám Kósa](#) (EPP, HU)

Lead committee: JURI

Establishment of the Structural Reform Support Programme for the period 2017 to 2020

Rapporteur: [Csaba Sógor](#) (EPP, RO)

Lead committee: REGI

Implementation report on Erasmus +

Rapporteur: [Emilian Pavel](#) (S&D, RO)

Lead committee: CULT

Need for an EU strategy to end and prevent the gender pension gap

Rapporteur: [Tania González Peñas](#) (GUE/NGL, ES)

Lead committee: FEMM

## Joint Eurofound-EMPL conference on Changing working conditions in Europe: Moving towards better work

On 17 November, Eurofound and the EMPL Committee will hold a joint [conference](#) on Changing working conditions in Europe: Moving towards better work. At this occasion, Eurofound will present the sixth European Working Conditions Survey, providing fresh evidence to illuminate job quality and the working lives of Europeans at work and beyond. It aims to help policymakers improve working conditions and share evidence on people's everyday scenarios at work. This latest edition of the survey covers 35 European countries and examines issues ranging from work-related physical and psychosocial risks, working time and work organisation to developing skills at work and lifelong learning, work-life balance, work and gender and health and well-being.

## Plenary follow-up of EMPL reports



During the last plenary session, the [resolution](#) on Parliament's position on the EU budget for 2017 was approved. Among other things, **MEPs call for an extra €1.5 billion to be made available to fund the Youth Employment Initiative to help youngsters desperately seeking a job.** The plenary vote triggers three weeks of "conciliation" talks with the Council, with the aim of reaching a deal between the two institutions in time for next year's budget to be voted by Parliament and signed by its President in December.

## Recent studies and briefing notes

- [Briefing](#) on the European Network of Public Employment Services - Setup and Activities
- [In-depth analysis](#): Investing in regions to boost jobs: cohesion policy and job creation
- [At a glance](#): The CAP and job creation in rural areas
- [Briefing](#) on How the EU budget is spent: Employment and social innovation programme (EaSI)

## Public consultation for the: mid-term evaluation of the European Union Programme for Employment and Social Innovation

On 20 October, the European Commission has launched a [public consultation](#) in the context of the mid-term evaluation of the [EU Programme for Employment and Social Innovation](#) (EaSI). It seeks feedback from stakeholders and participants or beneficiaries involved in this programme during the 2014-2016 period. Citizens and other organisations can also contribute. The public consultation is open until 11 January 2017.

## News from the Agencies

European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training ([Cedefop](#))

Cedefop recently published the briefing note 'Skill shortage and surplus occupations in Europe'. [More](#).

European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions ([Eurofound](#))

The report 'The Gender employment gap: challenges and solutions', **explores the main characteristics and consequences of gender gaps in labour market participation.** [More](#).

European Training Foundation (ETF)

ETF published the report 'Qualification systems: getting organised'. It will feed into the conference 'Getting Organised for Better Qualifications', which will take place in Brussels on November 23-24. [More](#).

European Agency for Safety and Health at Work ([EU-OSHA](#))

The recent report 'Rehabilitation and return to work: Europe's systems and policies' gives an overview of the approaches taken to rehabilitation and return to work throughout Europe. [More](#).

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**Twitter**

You may follow the activities of the EMPL committee on twitter: [@EPsocialAffairs](https://twitter.com/EPsocialAffairs)

**Meetings online**

Watch the Committee meeting live on the [EP website](#).

Past meetings are available via the [EP Live multimedia library](#) and you can also download the extracts of speakers.

**Further information**

For any further information, please contact the EMPL secretariat at [empl-secretariat@ep.europa.eu](mailto:empl-secretariat@ep.europa.eu) or visit the [EMPL Committee website](#).

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