

Newsletter - issue XXXVIII - February 2018

Introductory words by Marita Ulvskog



In February 2018, the EMPL Committee will meet on three occasions. On 19 February, an Interparliamentary Committee meeting will take place in the framework of the European Parliamentary Week 2018.

The agenda of the meeting on 21-22 February foresees a public hearing on the Commission proposal on work-life balance for parents and carers, an exchange of views with Commissioner Marianne Thyssen and the presentation of the work programmes of Cedefop, ETF, EU-OSHA and Eurofound. We will consider the amendments tabled to the draft report on the European Semester for economic policy coordination and discuss the draft reports on pathways for the reintegration of workers and on the guidelines for the employment policies of the Member States. Moreover, an exchange of views with Commission representatives on the working rights of university teachers in Cyprus will be held.

During the meeting on 26-27 February, the Committee will hold votes on the draft report on the European Semester for economic policy coordination and on the question for oral answer and motion for resolution on the European Framework for Quality and Effective Apprenticeships. We will also consider the amendments tabled to the draft report on the coordination of social security systems.

Let me also inform you that on 1 February, the EMPL Committee held a joint hearing with the LIBE and PETI Committees on Citizens' rights after Brexit. On 12 and 13 February, a three-Member EMPL delegation visited the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training (Cedefop) in Thessaloniki, Greece, to discuss the Agency's contribution to the design and implementation of European vocational training and education policy as well as key issues for cooperation between Parliament and Cedefop.

Thank you for your attention.

Marita Ulvskog, First Vice-Chair, Acting Chair

POINTS ON THE COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

Hearings

[Work-life balance for parents and carers](#)

Reports

[European Semester for economic policy coordination](#)

[Pathways for the reintegration of workers](#)

[Guidelines for the employment policies of the Member States](#)

[Coordination of social security systems](#)

Resolutions and oral questions

[EU Framework for Quality and Effective Apprenticeships \(vote\)](#)

Opinions

[EGF application: ES/Galicia wearing apparel - Spain \(vote\)](#)

[EGF application: SE/Ericsson - Sweden \(vote\)](#)

[EGF application: DE/Goodyear - Germany \(vote\)](#)

[Strengthening economic, social and territorial cohesion](#)

[Modernisation of education in the EU](#)

[Implementation report on the EU Youth Strategy](#)

[Posting of drivers in the road transport sector](#)

[Minimum requirements on driving times, breaks and rest periods](#)

[Amending Regulations \(EC\) No 1071/2009 and \(EC\) No 1072/2009](#)

[Regulation on a European services e-card \(vote\)](#)

[Directive on the legal and operational framework of the EU services e-card \(vote\)](#)

Exchange of views

[Commissioner Marianne Thyssen](#)

[Directors of Cedefop, ETF, EU-OSHA and Eurofound](#)

[Working rights of university teachers in Cyprus](#)

European Parliamentary Week 2018

[Interparliamentary Committee meeting](#)

MEETING DATES AND VENUES

19.2.2018, 16.45-18.45, JAN (4Q1)

21.2.2018, 9.00-12.30 and 15.00-18.30, PHS (1A002)

22.2.2018, 9.00-12.30, PHS (1A002)

26.2.2018, 15.00-18.30, PHS (1A002)

27.2.2018, 9.30-11.30, PHS (1A002)

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Work-life balance for parents and carers

Hearing



Acting Chair: Marita ULVSKOG
Rapporteur: David CASA

On 21 February, the EMPL Committee will hold a public hearing on the [Commission proposal](#) for a directive on Work-life balance for parents and carers, which will feed into the preparation of the related EMPL legislative draft report. The proposal was presented in the overall framework of the European Pillar of Social Rights and aims to address women's under-

representation in the labour market through higher minimum standards for parental, paternity and carer's leave.

Rapporteur: [David Casa](#) (EPP, MT)

Commissioner Marianne Thyssen

Exchange of views

On 21 February, Marianne Thyssen, Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs, Skills and Labour Mobility, will present the Commission [proposal](#) for a directive on transparent and predictable working conditions in the EU. The proposal aims to complement and modernise existing obligations to inform workers of their working conditions. It also proposes new minimum standards to ensure that all workers, including those on atypical contracts, benefit from greater predictability and clarity regarding their working conditions. The presentation will be followed by an exchange of views with Members.

Presentation of the 2018 work programmes of Cedefop, ETF, EU-OSHA and Eurofound

Exchange of views

On the same day, the Directors of the four Agencies in the EMPL remit will take part in an exchange of views with Members: James Calleja, Director of the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training, Juan Menéndez-Valdés, Director of the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions, Cesare Onestini, Director of the European Training Foundation and Christa Sedlatschek, Director of the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work will each present their Agency's work programme for 2018.

European Semester for economic policy coordination: Employment and Social Aspects in the Annual Growth Survey 2018

Consideration of amendments and adoption of draft report

Also on 21 February, EMPL Members will consider the [265 amendments](#) tabled to the [draft report](#) on the European Semester for economic policy coordination: Employment and Social Aspects in the Annual Growth Survey 2018. The vote is scheduled for 27 February.

Rapporteur: [Krzysztof Hetman](#) (EPP, PL)

Pathways for the reintegration of workers recovering from injury and illness into quality employment

Consideration of draft report

On 22 February, the Committee will consider the [draft INI report](#) on Pathways for the reintegration of workers recovering from injury and illness into quality employment. In her draft report, the Rapporteur focuses on prevention and early intervention, return to work and changing attitudes towards the reintegration of workers.

Rapporteur: [Jana Žitňanská](#) (ECR, SK)

Guidelines for the employment policies of the Member States

Consideration of draft report

Also on 22 February, EMPL Members will discuss the [draft report](#) on the proposal for a Council decision on guidelines for the employment policies of the Member States. In her draft report, the Rapporteur suggests approving the Commission proposal with 36 amendments.

Rapporteur: [Tatjana Ždanoka](#) (Greens/EFA, LV)

Coordination of social security systems

Consideration of amendments



On 26 February, the Committee will consider the amendments tabled to the [draft report](#) on amending Regulation (EC) No 883/2004 on the coordination of social security systems and Regulation (EC) No 987/2009 laying down the procedure for implementing Regulation (EC) No 883/2004. In his draft report, the

Rapporteur proposes 61 amendments. In addition, EMPL Members tabled the following amendments: [62-300](#), [301-507](#) and [508-700](#).

Rapporteur: [Guillaume Balas](#) (S&D, FR)

European Framework for Quality and Effective Apprenticeships

Adoption of oral question and motion for resolution

On 27 February, the draft question for oral answer and motion for resolution on the [European Framework for Quality and Effective Apprenticeships](#) will be put to the vote. The Framework aims to provide a common understanding of what defines quality and effective apprenticeships. EMPL Members tabled [194 amendments](#).

Strengthening economic, social and territorial cohesion in the EU

Consideration of draft opinion

On 21 February, EMPL Members will consider the [draft opinion](#) to the REGI report on strengthening economic, social and territorial cohesion in the European Union: the [7th report](#) of the European Commission. In her draft opinion, the Rapporteur underlines the importance of the European Social Fund and requests that the funding for cohesion policy should at least be maintained at the same budgetary level in the future multiannual financial framework.

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

Modernisation of education in the EU

Consideration of draft opinion

Also on 21 February, the Committee will consider the [draft opinion](#) to the CULT report on Modernisation of Education in the European Union. In her draft opinion, the Rapporteur focuses on the increased demand for high-level qualifications and skills and discusses skills mismatch and shortages, the need for recognition and validation of non-formal and informal learning and the importance of life-long learning.

Rapporteur: [Agnieszka Kozłowska-Rajewicz](#) (EPP, PL)

Implementation report on the EU Youth Strategy

Consideration of draft opinion

On the same day, the EMPL Committee will consider the [draft opinion](#) to the CULT implementation report on the EU Youth Strategy. In his draft opinion, the Rapporteur calls on the Commission to propose an increase in the funding, powers and scope of programmes promoting the employability and social inclusion of young people and to ensure that these funds are not used to help create unpaid internships or precarious work or replace permanent jobs with temporary ones or internships.

Rapporteur: [João Pimenta Lopes](#) (GUE/NGL, PT)

Enforcement requirements and specific rules for posting of drivers in the road transport sector

Consideration of amendments

On 26 February, EMPL Members will consider the amendments (23-148 and 149-367), to the [draft opinion](#) on the proposal for a directive as regards enforcement requirements and laying down specific rules with respect to Directive 96/71/EC and Directive 2014/67/EU for posting drivers in the road transport sector.

Rapporteur: [Martina Dlabajová](#) (ALDE, CZ)



Minimum requirements on maximum daily and weekly driving times, minimum breaks and daily and weekly rest periods

Consideration of amendments

Also on 26 February, EMPL Members will consider the [171 amendments](#) tabled to the [draft opinion](#) on the proposal for a regulation on minimum requirements on daily and weekly driving times, minimum breaks and daily and weekly rest periods and Regulation (EU) 165/2014 as regards positioning by means of tachographs.

Rapporteur: [Georges Bach](#) (EPP, LU)

Amending Regulation (EC) No 1071/2009 and Regulation (EC) No 1072/2009

Consideration of amendments

Also on 26 February, EMPL Members will consider the [249 amendments](#) tabled to the [draft opinion](#) on the proposal for a regulation amending Regulation (EC) No 1071/2009 concerning the conditions to be complied with to pursue the occupation of road transport operator, and Regulation (EC) No 1072/2009 on common rules for access to the international road haulage market.

Rapporteur: [Verónica Lope Fontagné](#) (EPP, ES)

Working rights of university teachers in Cyprus

Exchange of views

On 22 February, the EMPL Committee will hold an exchange of views with Commission representatives regarding the working rights of university teachers in Cyprus.

Votes on draft opinions

During its meetings on 21-22 and 26-27 February, the EMPL Committee will vote on the following opinions:

EGF application: 2017/006 ES/Galicia apparel - Spain

Rapporteur: [Marita Ulvskog](#) (First Vice-Chair, Acting Chair, S&D, SE)

Lead Committee: BUDG

EGF application: 2017/007 SE/Ericsson - Sweden

Rapporteur: [Marita Ulvskog](#) (First Vice-Chair, Acting Chair, S&D, SE)

Lead Committee: BUDG

EGF application: 2017/008 DE/Goodyear - Germany

Rapporteur: [Marita Ulvskog](#) (First Vice-Chair, Acting Chair, S&D, SE)

Lead Committee: BUDG

Regulation introducing a European services e-card and related administrative facilities

Rapporteur: [Marian Harkin](#) (ALDE, IE)

Lead Committee: IMCO

Directive on the legal and operational framework of the EU services e-card

Rapporteur: [Michaela Šojdrová](#) (EPP, CZ)

Lead Committee: IMCO

European Parliamentary Week 2018



The [European Parliamentary Week 2018](#) will take place on 19 and 20 February at the European Parliament in Brussels. It will bring together Parliamentarians from all over the European Union to discuss economic, budgetary and social matters. In this framework, the EMPL Committee will organise an Interparliamentary Committee meeting on 19 February at 16.45. Session I will deal with digitalisation and the future of work and session II with inequalities in Member States.

Recent studies and briefing notes

- The use of chip implants for workers - [EMPL study](#)
- Integration of Refugees in Austria, Germany and Sweden: Comparative Analysis - [Study](#)
- Integration of refugees in Greece, Hungary and Italy: Comparative Analysis - [Study](#)
- Integration of Refugees in Austria, Germany and Sweden: Comparative Analysis - [At a glance publication](#)
- Retrofitting smart tachographs by 2020: Costs and benefits - [Study](#)
- Access to the occupation of road transport operator and to the international road haulage market - [Briefing](#)
- Road infrastructure and tunnel safety - [Briefing](#)
- Social Agenda 50 - The new social dimension - [Commission publication](#)
- Diverse approaches to supporting Europe's most deprived - FEAD case studies 2017 - [Commission study](#)
- Employment and Social Development Quarterly Review - February 2018 - [Commission report](#)
- The effects of the minimum wage on employment: Evidence from a panel of EU Member States - [Commission publication](#)

News from the Agencies

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

On 24 January, Cedefop participated in a workshop on lifelong learning and employability in Brussels organised by the Coimbra Group. James Calleja, Cedefop Director, stressed that in today's labour market employers look for skills which make people employable, lifelong learners and entrepreneurial in their attitude towards excellence. He also highlighted the excellent reputation of European universities and the added value vocational colleges provide in transferring knowledge to the labour market. [More](#)

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

Eurofound has just published the European Quality of Life Survey 2016. It examines well-being and quality of life of multiple dimensions e.g. subjective well-being, standard of living, care responsibilities and work-life balance, healthcare and social insecurity. [More](#)

European Training Foundation ([ETF](#))

On 31 January, the ETF organised a workshop in Tirana, Albania, to assist the Albanian government in its planning for the next reform steps and identifying possible obstacles and remedies for the implementation of the 2018 performance indicators for modernising the VET system and the national employment service until 2020. [More](#)

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

On 25 January, EU-OSHA organised a seminar in Bilbao, Spain, on how to ensure workers' safety and health in micro and small enterprises (MSEs). Good practice examples from across the EU were presented, identifying key success factors and challenges, and the important role of intermediaries when it comes to successfully implementing support schemes and tools to improve safety and health in MSEs. [More](#)

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