

Newsletter - issue XXXXI - May 2018

## Introductory words by Marita Ulvskog



The EMPL Committee will meet on 14th and 15th May.

On 14th May, EMPL will hold a hearing on the challenges that digitalisation and automation pose to labour markets and social security systems. Subsequently, Members will have the chance to listen to the presentation of a study on the social protection of

workers in the platform economy.

The meeting of 15th May, instead, will start with the consideration of amendments to the draft report on work-life balance for parents and carers. Subsequently, EMPL will consider the draft opinion titled "Increase of the financial envelope of the Structural Reform Support Programme and adapt its general objective", and it will then continue with electronic voting. Members will vote on three draft opinions – concerning the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund and the statute for social and solidarity-based enterprises – as well as on an oral question on working conditions and precarious employment. Finally, a public hearing will be held on transparent and predictable working conditions in the European Union.

Thank you for your attention.

Marita Ulvskog, First Vice-Chair, Acting Chair

## POINTS ON THE COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

### Hearings

Digitalisation and automation: Challenges for the labour market and social security systems

Transparent and predictable working conditions in the European Union

### Reports

Work-life balance for parents and carers

### Resolutions and oral questions

Oral question on working conditions and precarious employment (vote)

### Opinions

Increase of the financial envelope of the Structural Reform Support Programme and adapt its general objective

Mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund - EGF/2017/009 FR/Air France - France (vote)

Mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund - EGF/2018/000 TA 2018 - Technical assistance at the initiative of the Commission (vote)

Statute for social and solidarity-based enterprises (vote)

### Exchange of views

Study on the social protection of workers in the platform economy

## MEETING DATES AND VENUES

14.05.2018, 15.00-18.30, JAN (4Q2)

15.05.2018, 9.30-12.30 and 14.30-17.00, JAN (4Q2)

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## Digitalisation and automation: Challenges for the labour market and social security systems

### Hearing

On 14 March, EMPL will hold a hearing titled "Digitalisation and automation: challenges for the labour market and social security systems". The purpose of the hearing is to debate the impact of digitalisation on the economy in general and on labour markets in particular. The hearing will start with the presentation of a STOA study, and will continue with contributions from experts and the European Economic and Social Committee.

## Transparent and predictable working conditions in the European Union

### Hearing

On 15 May, EMPL will host a public hearing on "Transparent and predictable working conditions in the European Union". The hearing is linked to the ongoing discussions on the legislative proposal on "transparent and predictable working conditions in the EU", for which the EMPL Committee is responsible. The main objective of the hearing will be to allow the rapporteur and the EMPL Members to gain better understanding of the legal and socio-economic considerations underlying this important proposal, as well as of its implications for the main stakeholders concerned.

## Work-life balance for parents and carers

### Consideration of amendments

On 15 May, the EMPL Committee will consider amendments to the draft report on work-life balance for parents and carers. Members have tabled 660 amendments to this draft report, in addition to the 18 amendments submitted by the rapporteur.

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

## Increase of the financial envelope of the Structural Reform Support Programme and adapt its general objective

### Consideration of draft opinion

Also on 15 May, EMPL Members will consider the draft opinion to the REGI file titled "Increase of the financial envelope of the Structural Reform Support Programme and adapt its general objective". In his draft opinion, the Rapporteur highlights the need to additionally stress the EU strategic priorities outlined in the Annual Growth Survey, such as supporting high quality education, training, labour productivity and active labour market policies. He further emphasizes that structural reforms should be related to social and employment policies, and he proposes a few technical changes.

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

## Study on the social protection of workers in the platform economy

### Study presentation

On 14 May, a study on the social protection of workers in the platform economy will be presented. The study reviews literature and previous research on the platform economy, and discusses its drivers and growth perspectives, based on the findings of 50 interviews conducted in eight European countries and on an original survey of 1,200 platform workers. The study also analyses the relevant legislation, and it concludes by making recommendations on how to ensure efficient social protection to workers in this growing sector of the economy.

## Oral question on working conditions and precarious employment

### Adoption of Oral Question

On 15 May, the agenda also foresees an oral question on working conditions and precarious employment. This oral question is a follow-up to the resolution on "working conditions and precarious employment" which received broad support in the European Parliament during its vote on 4 July 2017. The European Commission will be asked to give an update on the state of play of their activities on this matter, whether Member States are complying with EU labour legislation, and if any new concrete step is foreseen.

**Co-rapporteurs:** [David Casa](#) (PPE), [Siôn Simon](#) (S&D), [Anthea McIntyre](#) (ECR), [Neoklis Sylikiotis](#) (GUE/NGL), [Laura Agea](#) (EFDD), [Mara Bizzotto](#) (ENF), [Jean Lambert](#) (Verts/ALE), [Enrique Calvet Chambon](#) (ALDE)

## Votes on draft opinions

During its meetings on 14 and 15 May, the EMPL Committee will vote on the following opinions:

### Mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund - EGF/2017/009 FR/Air France - France

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

Lead Committee: BUDG

### Mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund - EGF/2018/000 TA 2018 - Technical assistance at the initiative of the Commission

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

Lead Committee: BUDG

## Statute for social and solidarity-based enterprises

**Rapporteur:** [Heinz K. Becker](#) (EPP, DE)

Lead Committee: JURI

## Recent studies and briefing notes

- The regions in the digital single market: ICT and digital opportunities for European regions - [Briefing](#)
- The impact of new technologies on the labour market and the social economy - [EPRS study](#)
- The employment and social situation in Canada - [Study for the EMPL Committee](#)
- Exploring Best Practices in Combatting Violence Against Women: Sweden - [In-depth analysis](#)
- The fight against poverty, social exclusion and discrimination - [Fact Sheets on the European Union](#)
- What if all technologies were inherently social? - [EPRS podcast](#)
- EU Youth Strategy - [EPRS study](#)
- Transparent and predictable working conditions - [Briefing](#)
- A New Directive On Work-Life Balance - [EPRS podcast](#)

## News from the Agencies

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

Cedefop has recently issued an online survey in the context of the project "Changing nature and role of vocational education and training (VET) in Europe". The aim of the project is to study how VET education is changing in European countries (including Norway and Iceland), so as to support the Commission in setting its objectives for cooperation in VET beyond 2020. The survey is targeted to experts in VET from different institutional backgrounds, and participation will be anonymous. The results of the study will be presented during the European vocational skills week in November 2018. [More](#)

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

Eurofound has recently published a report analysing the involvement of national social partners in the European Semester process in 2017. The study underlines the main differences and developments compared to the previous

editions of similar works, and it gives special attention to the role of social partners in implementing the reforms defined in 2016 country-specific recommendations. Following a request by the EU Employment Committee, the focus of the report is on 12 countries, where it was considered that social dialogue has room for improvement. [More](#)

### European Training Foundation (ETF)

On 1st May, ETF participated in an event concerning the future of skills and vocational education organized in the Nakhchivan Autonomous Republic, in Azerbaijan. The discussion gathered ETF experts, EU officials and policy-makers, as well as high-level delegates from Nakhchivan and the Azerbaijan government and the State Agency of Vocational Education of the Republic of Azerbaijan. Participants discussed the challenges and opportunities ahead, and debated both the 'Strategic Roadmap for VET in Azerbaijan' and EU support initiatives. Moreover, they visited a local school so as to get first-hand experience about the innovative projects implemented. [More](#)

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

EU-OSHA ran a session at the 32nd International Congress on Occupational Health, which took place in Dublin from 29 April to 04 May 2018. The Director of EU-OSHA Dr Christa Sedlatschek gave a statement concerning the prevention of occupational cancer, while a special session called "Roadmap on carcinogens: EU and National Initiatives" was run together with the Netherlands Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment. Finally, EU-OSHA also delivered presentations on other issues related to occupational safety and health, such as ageing and women. [More](#)

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