

NEWSLETTER – FEBRUARY II/March I, 2022

INTRODUCTORY WORDS



Dear reader,

The next EMPL Committee meetings will take place on 28th February and 3rd March.

On 28 February, the meeting will start with the election of the first Vice-Chair. Then, Members will consider the draft reports on the 'EU Action plan for the social economy' and 'Mental health in the digital world of work', and the draft opinion on the Commission proposal for a 2030 policy programme 'Path to the Digital Decade'. Moreover, in association with the ENVI Committee, EMPL Members will hold a hearing on the social and employment aspects of the 'Green Deal' and the 'Fit for 55' package. Finally, Members will vote the draft report on the 'European Semester for the economic policy coordination'.

On 3rd of March, the EMPL Committee will hear the presentation of a study on 'Policies for long term-carers' and the report from interinstitutional negotiations on the 'Adequate minimum wages in the EU'. In addition, Members will vote the adoption of the draft opinions on 'Machinery products', 'Women's poverty in Europe', on 'Amending Directive 2013/34/EU, Directive 2004/109/EC, Directive 2006/43/EC and Regulation (EU) No 537/2014, as regards corporate sustainability reporting', and the 'Mobilisation of the EGF'.

I would also like to inform you that on 28 February, EMPL committee will have a joint hearing with IMCO Committee on the 'Impact of restrictions imposed during the COVID-19 crisis on the free movement of professionals and way forward'.

Dragoş Pişlaru
Chair

MEETING DATE AND VENUE

Monday, 28 February 2022,
13.45 – 16.15 and 16.45 – 18.45
Brussels (remote), Room: József Antall (2Q2)

Thursday, 3 March 2022, 13.45 – 15.00
Brussels (remote), Room: József Antall (2Q2)

MEETING AGENDA

Election of the first Vice-Chair

Reports

- European Semester for economic policy coordination: Employment and social aspects in the Annual sustainable growth strategy 2022 (vote)
- The EU Action plan for the social economy
- Mental health in the digital world of work

Opinions

- Establishing the 2030 policy programme 'Path to the Digital Decade'
- Women's poverty in Europe (vote)
- Amending Directive 2013/34/EU, Directive 2004/109/EC, Directive 2006/43/EC and Regulation (EU) No 537/2014, as regards corporate sustainability reporting (vote)
- Machinery products (vote)
- Mobilisation of the European Globalisation adjustment Fund – EGF/2021/007 FR/Selecta - France (vote)

Hearing

- Social and employment aspects of the 'Green Deal' and the 'Fit for 55' package: state of play, challenges and opportunities

Exchange of views

- Presentation of a study on Policies for long-term carers

VOTES

The EMPL Committee will hold remote votes on 28 February and 3rd March 2022 on the following files ([see meeting documents](#)):

- Election of the first Vice-Chair
- Women's poverty in Europe
Rapporteur: [Dragoş Pîslaru](#) (Renew)
- Amending Directive 2013/34/EU, Directive 2004/109/EC, Directive 2006/43/EC and Regulation (EU) No 537/2014, as regards corporate sustainability reporting
Rapporteur: [Kira Marie Peter-Hansen](#) (Greens/EFA)
- European Semester for economic policy coordination: Employment and social aspects in the Annual sustainable growth strategy 2022
Rapporteur: [Helmut Geuking](#) (EPP)
- Machinery products
Rapporteur: [Marianne Vind](#) (S&D)
- Mobilisation of the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund: EGF/2021/007 FR/Selecta - France
Rapporteur: [Dragoş Pîslaru](#) (Renew)

CONSIDERATION

Establishing the 2030 policy programme 'Path to the Digital Decade'

Consideration of draft opinion ([see meeting documents](#))

The Committee on Employment and Social Affairs will discuss the draft opinion of Mr Dragoş Pîslaru on the proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the 2030 Policy Programme 'Path to the Digital Decade'. This opinion will put forward the social and employment priorities for this proposal. The Rapporteur notably stresses that it is important that the Path to the Digital Decade pushes the European Union and the Member States towards equal chances for our citizens to acquire and upgrade digital skills and capacities according to labour market requirements.

Rapporteur: [Dragoş Pîslaru](#) (Renew)

The EU Action plan for the social economy

Consideration of draft report ([see meeting documents](#))

The Committee on Employment and Social Affairs will discuss the draft report of Mr Jordi Cañas on the EU Action plan for the social economy. This report will be the Parliament's response to the Commission's action plan for social economy. It will seek to highlight the strengths and weaknesses of the action plan, its operability and its interaction with other EU measures, especially in the field of employment and social policies.

Rapporteur: [Jordi Cañas](#) (Renew)

Mental health in the digital world of work

Consideration of draft report ([see meeting documents](#))



The Committee on Employment and Social Affairs will discuss the draft report on Mental Health in the Digital World of Work. The draft report addresses the long-overdue political recognition of the crisis we face with citizens' mental health in the EU. The current EU-level legislation and policies in this area do not address the growing crisis of mental health amongst our workforce. The advantages of increased flexibility of teleworking and the Work-Life Balance Directive favour some, but there is a need to update the current legislation on occupational safety and health legislation to respond to the new realities of the digital age. The report calls for an EU Year of Good Mental Health in 2023 as it would ensure that the EU focuses on the prevalent mental health issues our citizens face.

Rapporteur: [Maria Walsh](#) (EPP)

HEARING

Social and employment aspects of the 'Green Deal' and the 'Fit for 55' package: state of play, challenges and opportunities

The EMPL Committee will organise, in association with the ENVI Committee, a hearing on 'Social and employment aspects of the Green Deal and the 'Fit for 55' package: state of play, challenges and opportunities'. This hearing will be divided in four interventions and will be followed with a debate with the co-rapporteurs on the Social Climate Fund and other members. Invited experts include Benjamin Sovacool, Scholar at the University of Sussex, Ludovic Voet from ETUC, Katie Treadwell from WWF, and Julian Popov from ECF.

EXCHANGE OF VIEWS

Policies for long-term carers

Presentation of a study

The EMPL Committee will hear the presentation of a study on 'Policies for long-term carers'. It provides an in-depth analysis of formal and informal long-term carers and their working conditions, the associated policy challenges and what Member States are doing to address these challenges. The study concludes with a number of suggestions for EU initiatives related to the terms and conditions of employment of long-term carers and to support informal carers.

NEWS FROM THE AGENCIES

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

Learn more about the skills revolution [here](#).

European Training Foundation ([ETF](#))

Check out ETF's study on vocational schools in sub-Saharan Africa [here](#).

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

Read EU-OSHA's policy brief on OSH in digital platform work [here](#).

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

Read Eurofound's report on Collective labour disputes in the EU [here](#).

European Labour Authority ([ELA](#))

Learn more about ELA's 'Truck&Bus' Action Week [here](#).

RECENT STUDIES AND BRIEFINGS

EP Study: Revaluation of working conditions and wages for essential workers

EP Briefing: Social Economy in Spain

USEFUL LINKS

- [EMPL Committee website](#)
- [Meeting documents](#)

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