

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2014 - 2019

Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

Thursday, 23 October 2014, 9.30 - 11.00 Room LOW S4.4 (in camera), Louise Weiss Building, Strasbourg

RESULTS

24.10.2014

The meeting started at 09:32 hrs and closed at 11:10 hrs. In the Chair: Ms Marita Ulvskog, 1st Vice-Chair, Acting Chair in the absence of Mr Thomas Händel.

Present

EPP	Mr Heinz K. Becker, Vice-Coordinator
S&D	Ms Jutta Steinruck, Coordinator
ECR	Ms Anthea McIntyre, Coordinator
ALDE	Ms Martina Dlabajová, Vice-Coordinator
GUE/NGL	Ms Inês Zuber, Co-Coordinator
Greens/EFA	Ms Jean Lambert, Coordinator

Greens/EFA Ms Jean Lambert, Coordinated EFDD Ms Laura Agea, Coordinator

Apologies

EPP Mr David Casa, Coordinator

GUE/NGL Ms Rina Ronja Kari, Co-Coordinator

1. Chair announcements

1.1 Practical consequences of the dissolution and re-establishment of the EFDD Group

The Chair said that the dissolution and the re-establishment of the EFDD Group had had no technical consequences at committee level.

1.2 European Parliamentary Week 2015 [KS]

The Chair informed the Coordinators of the current state of play regarding the European Parliamentary Week 2015, in particular that

- at their meeting on 18 September the Conference of Presidents had been informed by the President that the European Parliamentary Week in 2015 would take place from 2 to 6 February (Week 6)
- the Bundestag was in session during Week 6 and
- an additional EMPL Committee meeting might have to be held on 3 February
- Coordinators would be kept abreast of further developments.

1.4 Oral questions on the Health and Safety Strategy and Employment Equality Directive [MK, MM]

The Chair announced that the texts of the oral questions following the modifications exceeded the limit of 25 lines allowed for this type of text.

The compromise texts of both Oral Questions would be finalised in written procedure under the authority of the Chair and in collaboration with the political groups.

The final draft text of the Oral Questions would be subject to a vote in the full Committee on 4 November.

2. Allocation of reports and opinions

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2.1 European Semester for economic policy coordination: Employment and social aspects in the Annual Growth Survey 2015

[KS]

Resp.: EMPL **Opinion:**

<u>Decision</u>: Rapporteur to be nominated by the S&D Group

Opinions

 ${\bf 2.2.\ Protection\ of\ undisclosed\ know-how\ and\ business\ information\ (trade\ secrets)\ against\ their\ unlawful\ acquisition,\ use\ and\ disclosure\ -}$

2013/0402(COD)- COM(2013)0813 (RS)

Resp.: JURI **Opinion:** EMPL, ITRE, IMCO

Decision: No opinion

2.3. Prospects for the EU dairy sector - Review of the implementation of the Dairy package - 2014/2146(INI) - COM(2014)0354 (ZP)

Resp.: AGRI **Opinion:** DEVE, BUDG, CONT, EMPL,

ENVI, REGI

Decision: No opinion

2.4. European film in the digital era - 2014/2148(INI) - COM(2014)0272 (ZP)

Resp.: CULT **Opinion:** EMPL, ITRE, IMCO, JURI

Decision: No opinion

2.5. Towards an integrated approach to cultural heritage for Europe -

2014/2149(INI) - COM(2014)0477 (ZP)

Resp.: CULT **Opinion:** AFET, DEVE, ECON, EMPL, ITRE,

IMCO, REGI

Decision: No opinion

2.6. Discharge 2013: EU general budget - European Commission - 2014/2075(DEC)

[ZP]

Resp.: CONT **Opinion:** all committees

<u>Decision</u>: Rapporteur to be nominated by the ALDE Group

2.7. Discharge 2013: European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training CEDEFOP - 2014/2087(DEC)

[ZP]

Resp.: CONT **Opinion:** EMPL, ITRE

Decision: Rapporteur to be nominated by the ALDE Group

2.8. Discharge 2013: European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions - 2014/2088(DEC)

[ZP]

Resp.: CONT **Opinion:** EMPL

Decision: Rapporteur to be nominated by the ALDE Group

2.9. Discharge 2013: European Insurance and Occupational Pensions

Authority (EIOPA) - 2014/2121(DEC)

Resp.: CONT **Opinion: ECON,** EMPL

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Decision: No opinion

2.10. Discharge 2013: European Training Foundation - 2014/2104(DEC)

[ZP]

Resp.: CONT **Opinion:** EMPL

<u>Decision</u>: Rapporteur to be nominated by the ALDE Group

2.11. Discharge 2013: European Agency for Safety and Health at Work - 2014/2100(DEC)

[ZP]

Resp.: CONT **Opinion:** EMPL

<u>Decision</u>: Rapporteur to be nominated by the ALDE Group

2.12. Discharge 2013: EU general budget - European Parliament -

2014/2078(DEC)

Resp.: CONT **Opinion:** all committees

Decision: No opinion

2.13. Discharge 2013: EU general budget - Council and European Council -

2014/2079(DEC)

Resp.: CONT **Opinion:** all committees

Decision: No opinion

2.14. Discharge 2013: EU general budget - European Ombudsman -

2014/2084(DEC)

Resp.: CONT **Opinion:** all committees

Decision: No opinion

2.15. Discharge 2013: EU general budget - Court of Justice - 2014/2080(DEC)

Resp.: CONT **Opinion:** all committees

Decision: No opinion

2.16. Discharge 2013: EU general budget - Court of Auditors -

2014/2081(DEC)

Resp.: CONT **Opinion:** all committees

Decision: No opinion

2.17. Discharge 2013: EU general budget - Economic and Social Committee - 2014/2082(DEC)

Resp.: CONT **Opinion:** all committees

Decision: No opinion

2.18. Discharge 2013: EU general budget - Committee of the Regions - 2014/2083(DEC)

Resp.: CONT **Opinion:** all committees

Decision: No opinion

Documents received for information

2.19. Report from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions on the implementation, results and overall assessment of the 2012 European Year for Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations - COM(2014)0562 [MM]

Resp.: EMPL **Opinion:** REGI, CULT, FEMM

<u>Decision</u>: 1. Request authorisation for an implementation report

2. Rapporteur to be nominated by the EPP Group

2.20. Proposal for a COUNCIL DECISION on the position to be taken by the European Union in the Joint Committee established under the Agreement between the European Community and its Member States, of the one part, and the Swiss Confederation, of the other, on the free movement of persons as regards the amendment of Annex II to that Agreement on the coordination of social security schemes -COM(2014)0611

[RS]

Resp.: EMPL **Opinion:** LIBE

Decision:

- 1. The Coordinators instructed the Chair to write to the President, asking for a statement to be made in Parliament by the European Commission in accordance with Rule 109.
- 2. The Coordinators instructed the Secretariat to commission a note from PolDepA on the state of play of EU-Switzerland relations falling under the EMPL remit.

3. Exchange of views with stakeholders – Establishment of a European Platform to enhance cooperation in the prevention and deterrence of undeclared work

[CO]

Decision:

The Coordinators agreed that the speakers invited for the exchange of views on 4 November 11:00 to 12:30 hrs represent:

- BusinessEurope
- the ETUC
- Eurofound
- the Senior Labour Inspectorates Committee.
- 4. EMPL Committee work programme for 2014-2015

A) Own-initiative reports

- 1. The Coordinators decided that authorisation shall be sought for the following 5 non-legislative own-initiative reports:
 - 1. Commission Communication on a Green Employment Initiative: Tapping into the job creation potential of the green economy COM(2014)0446 (Greens/EFA, endorsed by S&D) [ZP]
 - 2. Creating a competitive EU labour market for the 21st century: matching skills and qualifications with demand and job opportunities, as a way to recover from the crisis *common title proposed jointly by EPP and ALDE* [CO]
 - 3. Reducing inequalities with a special focus on child poverty (proposed by S&D)
 - 4. Social Entrepreneurship and Social Innovation in combatting unemployment *common title proposed jointly by ECR and ALDE* [PR]
 - 5. The labour and social dimension of TTIP (proposed by Greens/EFA) [MK]
- 2. The Coordinators decided that the decision as to whether the Communication below should be the object of an own-initiative report should be taken after the debate on the Oral Question in plenary on 24 November:
 - 6. Communication from the Commission on an EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work, COM(2014) 332

- 3. The Coordinators decided that the remaining items on the waiting list shall be:
 - 7. Workers representation on board level in Europe (GUE/NGL)
 - 8. Reform of educational systems in Europe as a way to fight youth unemployment (EPP)
 - 9. Social dumping in Europe (S&D)
 - 10. How best to harness the potential of small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs), which are an important contributor to growth and employment in the EU? (ECR)

B) Studies and workshops

Decision:

- 1. The Coordinators decided, following an exchange of views, that the budgetary appropriations available for 2014 shall be used for a small study on "Employment conditions in the international road haulage sector".
- 2. The Coordinators noted that 22 proposals for studies and 3 proposals for workshops had been made and decided that the political groups shall determine tentative top priorities in a written procedure so as to take operational decisions on the use of the budgetary appropriations available for 2015 at the next Coordinators' meeting.
- 5. Appointment to the Gender Mainstreaming Network

[ZP]

<u>Decision</u>: The Coordinators appointed Ms Ulvskog, 1st Vice-Chair, as the Committee's representative on the Gender Mainstreaming Network.

6. Experts for the Governing Board of the European Training Foundation (ETF)

[BM]

Decision:

The Coordinators decided that the deadline for the nomination of candidates (with CVs and declarations of financial interests) by the political groups shall be 20 November 13:00 hrs.¹

¹ As provided by Article 3 (a) of the rules on the designation by the European Parliament of members of the management boards of the specialised agencies and bodies, the appointments have to be adopted by a vote in committee:

⁽a) The applications received from persons offering the qualifications required by the regulation establishing the agency or body and holding the nationality of one of the Member States shall be submitted to the committee responsible by a political group or 29 Members.

The Coordinators noted that the S&D Group had put forward the name of Jan Andersson.

7. Organisation of the EMPL-INTA Joint public hearing on "Employment and social aspects of the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP)" [MK]

The hearing of the EU Chief negotiator Ignatio Garcia Bercero is scheduled to take place on 2 December 2014 from 10.00 to 12.30.

Decision:

The Coordinators agreed that EMPL invite experts from

- ETUC
- BusinessEurope
- Solidar
- SME Europe

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and decided that all experts shall submit CVs as soon as possible.

8. <u>Joint ECON-EMPL meeting on the Annual Growth Survey</u> [KS]

Decision:

The Coordinators decided that EMPL should invite Mr Dombrovskis (responsible Vice-President for the Euro and Social Dialogue) and Ms Thyssen (Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs, Skills and Labour Mobility) in addition to the invitation to Mr Moscovici as decided by ECON.

⁽b) The committee responsible shall verify that the candidates actually fulfil the abovementioned conditions and that they are willing to accept the appointment. Candidates shall also disclose to the committee their <u>financial or other interests</u> in the area of activity of the agency or body and, where applicable, any incompatibility with other duties they may have taken up in activities in the same area. The committee responsible shall draw candidates' attention to the requirements of impartiality and independence which they will undertake to fulfil, where applicable, pursuant to Article 5(b) below2; it shall apprise them of Parliament's general guidelines with regard to the objectives and method of operation of the agency or body. Candidates may be given a personal hearing.

⁽c) The committee responsible shall, by a majority of its members, adopt a list, in the order of votes obtained, of persons eligible to be appointed full members and of persons eligible to be appointed alternate members. This list shall comprise a number of candidates, full members and alternates, equal to at least twice the number of posts to be filled.

9. European Youth Event (EYE 2014) – Follow-up in EMPL

Decision:

The Coordinators held an exchange of views and

- agreed that
 - o a discussion with young people who had participated in the EYE2014 should be organised in the Employment Committee
 - the discussion should be taken very seriously and that 60 minutes should be set aside for this purpose
 - webstreaming and social media should be used so as to maximise the outreach
- instructed the secretariat to draw up a note with concrete proposals.

10. Organising a workshop on Employee Financial Participation

Decision:

The Coordinators

- heard a representative of Policy Department A drawing their attention to certain problems that had arisen in the context of a study that had been commissioned for the Committee before the elections
- held an exchange of views
- agreed that the experts of the pilot project (travelling at their own expenses) and a representative of the European Commission should be invited to present the pilot project at a meeting outside the regular EMPL meetings. (Tentative date: 11 November, 10:30-12:00 hrs).

11. <u>Petitions</u> [MM]

Petition 1495/2013 by Camelia Fusar (Romanian) on the treatment of stroke victims as persons with disabilities

Decision: The Coordinators took note of the petition.

12. Points for information

12.1. EMPL Public hearings in 2015

At their meeting of 24 September, Coordinators

- held an extensive exchange of views
- noted that the deadline for the submission of requests for public hearings to be held in the first half of 2015 had been set for 10 October 2014
- agreed that 2 hearings should be held during the first half of 2015 and another 2 hearings during the second half of 2015
- agreed on the following short-list of topics for public hearings (list according
 to the order in which the proposals were collected, without prejudice to the
 final order of precedence)
 - Reform of educational systems in Europe as a way to fight youth unemployment (if possible combined with a hearing together with CULT Committee) (EPP)
 - o Revision of the EU2020 strategy (S&D)
 - o Re-shoring Europe bringing jobs back to Europe (ECR)
 - Creating a competitive EU labour market for the 21 century: matching skills and qualifications with demand and job opportunities (ALDE)
 - Social dumping in the aviation industry (GUE/NGL) on the understanding that the title might be broadened, subject to submission of a revised wording by GUE/NGL
 - Member States' active labour market policies good practices with regard to the 3 parts of the Active Inclusion Strategy (adequate income, labour market activation, high-quality public services) (Greens/EFA)
- instructed the Chair to finalise the short-list by means of a written procedure so that the authorisation of those 2 hearings which would be indicated by the political groups as being the most urgent may be sought
- noted that the short-list would be subject to further updates as may be decided by the Coordinators at a later stage.

In accordance with the above decision, the Chair's proposal – as approved in written procedure² – was sent to the Conference of Committee Chairs for authorisation.

Decision:

12.2. Timetables

Draft report on European network of Employment Services, workers' access to mobility services and the further integration of labour markets (Heinz K. Becker)

Deadline to send to TO/translation	17 December 2014
Consideration of draft in committee	19/20 January 2015
Deadline for AMs	30 January 2015 at 12h00
Consideration of AMs	26 February 2015
Adoption in EMPL	24 March 2015

Establishment of a European Platform to enhance cooperation in the prevention and deterrence of undeclared work (Georgi Pirinski)

Deadline to send to TO/translation	7 November 2014
Consideration of draft report	1 / 2 December 2014
Deadline AMs	15 December 2014 at 12.00
Consideration of AMs	21 / 22 January 2015
Adoption in EMPL	26 February 2015
Adoption in plenary	TBD

Draft opinion on the European Central Bank Annual Report for 2013 (David Casa)

Deadline to send to TO/translation	16 October 2014
Consideration of draft in committee	4 November 2014
Deadline for AMs	6 November 2014 at 12h00
Adoption in EMPL	1/2 December 2014
Adoption in ECON	8 December 2014
Plenary estimate	February 2015

Draft opinion on the European Investment Bank Annual Report for 2013 (David Casa)

Casa)	
Deadline to send to TO/translation	16 October 2014
Consideration of draft in committee	4 November 2014
Deadline for AMs	10 November 2014 at 12h00
Consideration of AMs	1/2 December 2014
Adoption in EMPL	21/22 January 2015
Adoption in ECON	27 January 2015
Plenary estimate	March 2015

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² Viz. hearings on :

[•] The Revision of the EU 2020 Strategy

[•] The reform of educational systems in Europe as a way to fight youth unemployment (if possible together with the CULT Committee)

Draft opinion on Economic Governance Framework: stocktaking and challenges (Anne Sander)

Deadline to send to TO/translation	10 November 2014
Consideration of draft in committee	1/2 December 2014
Deadline for AMs	10 December 2014 at 12h00
Adoption in EMPL	21/22 January 2015
Adoption in ECON	January/February 2015
Plenary estimate	February/March 2015

12.3. Outgoing letters

The following letters sent by the Chairman are annexed to the Coordinators' notes:

- EMPL Hearing in the 1st half of 2015 to Jerzy Buzek, Chairman of the Conference of Committee Chairs
- Request authorisation to draw up an own INI report under Rule 52 European Semester to Jerzy Buzek, Chairman of the Conference of Committee Chairs
- Request for authorisation to draft an opinion on single member private limited companies (JURI) to Martin Schulz, President of the European Parliament
- Request to apply Rule 54 to the FEMM Committee Own-Initiative Report entitled "Report on the application of Directive 2006/54/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 5 July 2006 on the implementation of the principle of equal opportunities and equal treatment of men and women in matters of employment and occupation" (D(2014)41778) to Jerzy Buzek, Chairman of the Conference of Committee Chairs
- Reply on the Charter for Multilevel Governance in Europe to Michel Le Brun, President of the Committee of the Regions
- UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, to Martin Schulz, President of the European Parliament
- PETI min wage Petition No. 1082/2013 by Gredo Förster (German) concerning the setting of a minimum wage - to Cecilia Wikström, Chair, Committee on Petitions
- Petition 0918/2013 by Anna Orzechowska (Polish) on discrimination against certain groups of unemployed persons under Polish law - to Cecilia Wikström, Chair, Committee on Petitions
- Petition 1335/2013 by Matthieu Guillaume Chatelin (French) on Freedom of movement for severely disabled - to Cecilia Wikström, Chair, Committee on Petitions
- Petition No. 1354/2013 by Tina Hansen (Danish) on discrimination in a pension case to Cecilia Wikström, Chair, Committee on Petitions
- Invitation James Calleja, Director CEDEFOP
- Invitation Christa Sedlatchek, Director OSHA
- Invitation Juan Menendez-Valdes, Director EUROFOUND
- Invitation Madlen Serban, Director ETF
- Invitation Jean-François Mézières ETF expert
- Invitation Jan Andersson ETF expert

• Invitation Sara Parkin - ETF expert

12.4. Documents for information

The following documents can be found annexed to the notes:

• Report from the third interparliamentary conference on Article 13 of the Fiscal Compact, Rome 29-30 September 2014

The co-chairs of the EP-Delegation informed President Schulz on the outcome of this conference.

From an EMPL perspective, of particular importance will be the upcoming discussions on the Rules of Procedure and on the interface between the European Parliamentary Week and the Article 13 conference.

13. <u>Date of next Coordinators' meeting</u>

The Coordinators decided to hold their regular meetings during Strasbourg sessions on Thursday from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m., on the understanding that additional meetings may be convened in Brussels if necessary.