



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

2014 - 2019

EMPL COORDINATORS' MEETING

Monday, 07 December 2015, 17.00 - 18.30

Room JAN 4Q1 (in camera), József Antall building, Brussels

15.12.2015-rev

The meeting started at 17.10 hrs and closed at 18.25 hrs. In the Chair: Mr Thomas Händel, EMPL Chair.

Present

Chair	Mr Thomas Händel, EMPL Chair
EPP	Mr Heinz Becker, Vice Coordinator
S&D	Ms Jutta Steinruck, Coordinator
ECR	Ms Anthea McIntyre, ECR Coordinator
ALDE	Ms Enrique Calvet Chambon, replacing the ALDE Coordinator
GUE/NGL	Ms Inês Zuber, Co-Coordinator, Ms Rina Ronja Kari, Co-Coordinator
Greens/EFA	Ms Jean Lambert, Coordinator
EFDD	Ms Laura Agea, Coordinator

Apologies

EPP	Mr David Casa, Coordinator
ALDE	Ms Marian Harkin, Coordinator
ENF	Mr Dominique Martin, Coordinator

Also present: Mr Adám Kósa for point 1.5.

1. Chair's announcements

1.1 Interpretation

Interpretation was available in German, English, Italian, French, Hungarian, Danish and Portuguese.

1.2 State of play related to conflicts of competence

1.2.1 “Refugees: Social inclusion and integration into the labour market” - EMPL/CULT (PR)
At their meeting of 28 September 2015 Coordinators decided to seek authorisation for a non-legislative own-initiative report on “Refugees: Social inclusion and integration into the labour market”. The CULT committee has submitted a request to the CCC to be associated under Rule 54 for parts of the report falling under its competence, notably education, lifelong learning, and "integration through culture". During the CCC meeting on 27 October it was decided to grant the CULT Committee Rule 54. A letter specifying the arrangement has been agreed on by both Committee Chairs on 24 November and has subsequently been sent to the CCC.

1.3 Feedback from the Chair on the Delegation to Greece (MK)

On 30.11 and 1.12.2015 a delegation by EMPL composed of the Chair and the members Miareta Kumpula-Natri (S&D), Amjud Bashir (ECR), Laura Agea (EFDD) and the local member Kostandinka Kuneva (GUE) visited Athens following an invitation by Mr Katrougalos, Minister of Labour, Social Security and Social Solidarity. The delegation had meetings with the Minister and the Alternate Ministers Antonopoulou, Fotiou and Petropoulos, and with the Heads of Unit of the ministry. The delegation also met the social partners, the President of the Hellenic Republic, Mr Pavlopoulos, the Vice President of the Government, Mr Dragasakis and had a meeting in the Greek Parliament with representatives of the Committee on Social Affairs of the Greek Parliament, in which was also assisted Mr Nicolas Schmidt, Minister of Labour, Luxembourg Presidency.

The delegation was informed about the forthcoming reforms to the Greek insurance and pension system, the impact on the labour market and the social situation of measures taken in the framework of the financial assistance programmes granted to Greece following the Memoranda of Understanding, the current needs to be met to cope with high unemployment rates and also the terms for assuring the sustainability of the Greek pension and insurance systems.

For the sake of transparency of measures to be taken to ensure the effectiveness of the necessary Greek reforms, the Greek authorities expressed the wish that the EMPL committee would follow in the framework of its competence the forthcoming review of the Greek labour law, the labour market situation -including collective dismissal, industrial action and collective bargaining, taking into account best practices internationally and in Europe -, labour market policies to be established which should be compatible with sustainable and inclusive growth. The Greek authorities also stressed the need for an increased funding from the ESF, the adaptation to the Greek particularities of the Youth Employment Initiative or of the FEAD so as to allow the Greek government to continue to run the distribution of in kind benefits.

1.4 Feedback from Chair from the CCC - Implementation reports

The draft recommendation can be found in the annexes

Decision: *The Chair invited Coordinators to send him comments in writing on the draft recommendation in view of the upcoming CCC meeting.*

1.5 EP participation in the EU Framework for promoting, protecting and monitoring the UN CRPD (MM/MA)

In the presence of Adám Kósa

Decision: *The draft letter requesting technical assistance from the UN CRPD Committee will be submitted to the Coordinators for decision at a subsequent meeting.*

2. Allocation of reports and opinions

Reports

none received

Opinions

2.1 An EU strategy for the Alpine region 2015/2324(INI) (RS)

Responsible: REGI
AGRI

Opinions: EMPL, ENVI, ITRE, TRAN,

Decision: *Rapporteur to be nominated by the EPP Group.*

2.2 Erasmus+ 2015/2327(INI) (MG)

Responsible: CULT

Opinions: EMPL, BUDG

Decision: *Rapporteur to be nominated by the S&D group. Coordinators requested that the Secretariat investigate the possibility to request the application of Rule 54.*

2.3 BUDG Strategic INI report on "Preparation of the post-electoral revision of the MFF 2014-2020: Parliament's input ahead of the Commission's proposal" (MA)

Responsible: BUDG

Opinions: EMPL

Decision: *Rapporteur to be nominated by the S&D group*

2.4 Establishment of the Structural Reform Support Programme for the period 2017 to 2020 and amending Regulations (EU) No 1303/2013 and (EU) No 1305/2013 (MA)

Responsible: REGI

Opinions: EMPL, ECON, ENVI, ITRE

Decision: *Rapporteur to be nominated by the EPP group. Coordinators instructed the Secretariat to request the application of the procedure with associated committees under Rule 54.*

2.5 Amending Regulation (EU) 806/2014 in order to establish a European Deposit Insurance Scheme *I 2015/0270(COD) COM(2015)0586 – C8-0371/2015 (PR)**

Responsible: ECON

Opinions: EMPL, BUDG, IMCO

Decision: *No opinion*

Documents received for information

- 2.6 Commission Staff Working Document Accompanying the document Report from the Commission to the Council on the Functioning of the Transitional Arrangements on Free Movement of Workers from Croatia (First phase: 1 July 2013 - 30 June 2015) SWD(2015)0107
- 2.7 Commission Staff Working Document Reply of the European Union to the list of issues in relation to the initial report of the European Union on the implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities SWD(2015)0127
- 2.8 Commission Staff Working Document Assessment of the Social Impact of the new Stability Support Programme for Greece SWD(2015)0162
- 2.9 Commission Staff Working Document Analytical Supporting Document Accompanying the document Proposal for a Council Recommendation on the integration of the long-term unemployed into the labour market SWD(2015)0176
- 2.10 Proposal for a Council decision on the signing, on behalf of the European Union, and provisional application of the Agreement between the European Union and the Independent State of Samoa on the short-stay visa waiver COM(2015)0107
- 2.11 Report from the Commission to the European Council: Trade and Investment Barriers Report 2015 COM(2015)0127
- 2.12 Proposal for a decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on the mobilisation of the EU Solidarity Fund (Floods in Romania, Bulgaria and Italy) COM(2015)0162
- 2.13 Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions: Reviewing the decision-making process on genetically modified organisms (GMOs) COM(2015)0176
3. FEMM report on Differences between women and men in work, care and leisure time (ZP)

***Decision:** Coordinators decided to challenge the FEMM request for authorisation of its report on "Differences between women and men in work and care time and their quality of life" and to introduce a request for authorisation for the following report "Creating Labour Market Conditions Favourable for Family-Work Balance". Coordinators thereby decided to maintain the report on "Working Conditions and Precarious Employment" on the shortlist of own-initiative reports.*

4. Accessibility Act (MM/MA)

Decision: *Coordinators took note of the proposal for a Directive on the approximation of the law, regulations and administrative provisions of the Member States as regards accessibility requirements for products and services. Coordinators consider the proposal as falling within the EMPL remit and expect the text to be referred to EMPL as lead Committee. Coordinators decided that if this weren't the case, the procedure for joint committee meetings (Rule 55) should apply.*

5. EMPL Committee work programme for 2016 - Studies & Workshops (LS/ZP)

Annex: table prepared by Policy Department A with assessment of opportunity of launching expertise on the topics proposed, and the format and price estimate of possible expertise, and note concerning the budget.

Decision: *Coordinators approved the proposed list of topics adapted according to the following priorities: refugees, skills and SMEs. Regarding skills, Coordinators rejected the proposal to have a research study as described in the notes annexed but decided to commission a workshop as well as a reduced study ('analytical study').*

6. Letter of the UK Prime Minister to the President of the European Council of 10 November, entitled "a new settlement for the UK in a reformed EU" (RS)

The letter can be found in the annexes

Decision: *Coordinators took notes of the request by several groups to hold an exchange of view on this issue in Committee meeting. Coordinators postponed their decision to their next meeting.*

7. Oral question on "What is Social Triple A?" - Next steps (MK/GB)

Decision: *Coordinators decided to draw up an oral question on "What is Social Triple A?" without resolution in view of the March plenary. Coordinators invited groups to communicate the name of the co-sponsors of the oral question to the Secretariat by 15 December COB.*

8. Delegation to the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training (CEDEFOP) on 10-11 February 2016 (LS/PR)

Annexes: d'Hondt table for agencies and draft programme

Decision: *Coordinators took note of the composition of delegation (1 ALDE, 1 GUE/NGL and 1 S&D), the draft programme and invited the groups to communicate the name of the Member of the Delegation to the Secretariat by 18 December COB.*

9. Delegation to San Francisco / Silicon Valley US - participants, preliminary draft programme and background notes (RS/LS)

Annex: d'Hondt table for ad hoc delegations and draft programme

Decisions: *Coordinators took note of the draft programme and invited the groups to communicate the name of the Member of the Delegation to the Secretariat by 14 January COB (Chair, 3 EPP, 1 S&D, 1 ECR, 1 ALDE, 1 GUE/NGL) (Chair, 3 EPP, 1 S&D, 1 ECR, 1 ALDE, 1 GUE/NGL). Coordinators instructed the Secretariat to launch the procedures necessary regarding the background notes.*

10. EMPL Committee Hearing on the Labour Mobility Package - 17 March 2016 (RS)

Decision: *Coordinators decided to postpone the public hearing to a later date to be determined when the labour mobility package will be known.*

11. Motion for Resolution¹ - decision on procedure (MA)

Annex: text of the motions

11.1 B8-0953/2015 - Motion for a European Parliament resolution on the recent drop in wages in Italy as reported by the OECD by Gianluca Buonanno

The Motion for Resolution can be found annexed to these notes.

¹ Rule 133 : Motions for resolutions

1. Any Member may table a motion for a resolution on a matter falling within the spheres of activity of the European Union. The motion may not comprise more than 200 words.
2. The committee responsible shall decide what procedure is to be adopted.
It may combine the motion for a resolution with other motions for resolutions or reports.
It may adopt an opinion, which may take the form of a letter.
It may decide to draw up a report under Rule 52.
3. The authors of a motion for a resolution shall be informed of the decisions of the committee and of the Conference of Presidents.
4. The report shall contain the text of the motion for a resolution.
5. Opinions in the form of a letter addressed to other institutions of the European Union shall be forwarded by the President.
6. The author or authors of a motion for a resolution tabled under Rule 123(2), 128(5) or 135(2) shall be entitled to withdraw it before the final vote.
7. A motion for a resolution tabled in accordance with paragraph 1 may be withdrawn by its author, authors or first signatory before the committee responsible has decided, in accordance with paragraph 2, to draw up a report on it.
Once the motion has been thus taken over by the committee, only the committee shall be empowered to withdraw it up until the opening of the final vote.
8. A withdrawn motion for a resolution may be taken over and retabled immediately by a group, a committee or the same number of Members as is entitled to table it.
Committees have a duty to ensure that motions for resolutions tabled under this Rule which meet the requirements laid down are followed up and duly referred to in the resulting documents.

Decision: *Not to follow up this matter since the European Union has no competence to rule on wages or pay (Article 153(5) TFEU)*

11.2 B8-1125/2015 - Motion for a European Parliament resolution on measures for greater ease of access to microfinance facilities by Aldo Patriciello

The Motion for Resolution can be found annexed to these notes.

Decision: *Not to follow up this matter since ways to increase access to microfinance facilities have been debated in EMPL in the framework of the own-initiative report 'Implementation of the European Progress Microfinance Facility' (Rapporteur: Sven Schulze), adopted on 10 November 2015.*

11.3 B8-1131/2015 - Motion for a European Parliament resolution on improving and expanding the conditions governing access to the Erasmus+ programme for young people with mental and physical disabilities by Aldo Patriciello

The Motion for Resolution can be found annexed to these notes.

Decision: *No action needed; the motion has been referred to EMPL for opinion (CULT is the committee responsible)*

12. Points for information

12.1 Timetables

Reports

Workers' representation on board level in Europe (Thomas Händel) revised timetable

Decision by coordinators	9 July 2015
Send draft report to translation	23 February 2016
Consideration of draft report	16/17 March 2016
<i>Deadline for tabling AMs</i>	<i>4 April 2015 at 12.00</i>
Consideration of AMs	26 April 2016
Vote EMPL	30 May 2015
Vote plenary	tbc

Application of the Council directive 2000/78/EC of 27 November 2000 establishing a general framework for equal treatment in employment and occupation ("Employment Equal Directive") 2015/2116(INI) (rapp: Renate Weber) Revised timetable

Send text to translation	29 January 2016
Consideration of draft Report	17-18 February 2016
<i>Deadline AMs</i>	<i>3 March 2016</i>
Consideration of AMs tabled	22-23 March 2016
Vote EMPL	18-19 April 2016

Implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities with special regard to the Concluding Observations of the UN CRPD Committee (rapp: Helga Stevens)

Decision by coordinators	9 July 2015
Send working document to translation	29 January 2016
Exchange of views in Committee with stakeholders and consideration of working document	17-18 February 2016
Send draft report to translation	24 February 2016
Consideration of draft report	16-17 March 2016
Deadline AMs	23 March 2016
Consideration of AMs tabled	26 April 2016
Vote EMPL	30 May 2016

European Semester for economic policy coordination: Employment and Social Aspects in the Annual Growth Survey 2016 (rapp: Sofia Ribeiro)

Send draft report to translation	14 December 2015
Consideration of draft report	11 January 2016
Deadline AMs	14 January 2016 (EN only)
Consideration of AMs tabled	25 January 2016
Vote	17 February 2016
Vote plenary	February II 2016

Coordinators took note of the fact that amendments would be tabled in English only, in order to allow the EMPL report to be jointly debated in the FEB II plenary with the ECON report (joint key debate foreseen by the CoP).

EGF implementation report (Marian Harkin)

Deadline for sending text to translation	29 February
Consideration of draft report	22/23 March
Deadline for tabling amendments	5 April
Consideration of AMs tabled	26 April
Shadow Rapporteurs meeting - compromises	Weeks 16, 17, 18 and 19
Vote in EMPL	24 May
Vote in Plenary (indicative)	July 2016

Opinions:

Gender Equality and Empowering Women in the Digital Age (Jutta Steinruck)

Decision by Coordinators	12 November 2015
Deadline to send draft opinion to translation	17 November
Consideration of draft opinion	7 December

Deadline for tabling AMs	9 December at noon
Shadow rapporteurs' meetings	Weeks 2 and 3
Deadline for finalisation of negotiated compromises (includes indication of political support)	19 January
Pre-final voting list to be sent out	20 January
Deadline for comments (oral AMs, requests for split votes / separate votes) to the pre-final voting list	Friday 22 January at 10 am
Sending out final voting list	Friday 22 January as soon as possible after the deadline for comments
Vote EMPL	25 January
Vote Lead Committee FEMM	17 February
Plenary estimate	tbc

Implementation of the 2010 recommendations of Parliament on social and environmental standards, human rights and corporate responsibility (Tiziana Beghin) revised timetable

Decision by coordinators	2 March 2015
Send draft opinion to translation	13 November 2015
Consideration of draft opinion	3 December 2015
Deadline AMs	26 January 2016 , noon
Vote EMPL	23 February 2016
Vote lead committee INTA	13/14 March 2016
Vote plenary	tbc

Coordinators took note of the modified deadline for amendments

Oral Question "What is social triple A?"

Approved by EMPL Coordinators	15 October 2015
Consideration of draft OQ	25 January 2016
Deadline AMs	05 February 2016
TO	08 February 2016
Vote EMPL	23 February 2016
Vote plenary	March 2016

12.2 European Parliamentary Week - EMPL ICM (MM)

The European Parliamentary Week will take place on 16-17 February 2016 at the premises of the European Parliament in Brussels.

On the first day the Interparliamentary meeting on the European Semester Cycles 2015/2016 will be held, organised by the European Parliament. It will provide an opportunity to debate the proposed changes to the European semester process, exchange of best practice and to strengthen cooperation.

The plenary session will be held in the morning, while the **Interparliamentary Committee Meetings (ICM) of the EMPL, ECON and BUDG Committees** will take place in parallel, on **16 February from 15.00 to 18.00**.

The topics of the EMPL ICM are the following:

1. What is a Social Triple A? - A European pillar of social rights, including wage setting mechanisms,
2. Investment policies for job creation: EU investment instruments and skills policies

The topic of the BUDG ICM is as follows: MFF revision: EU and national expectations, and how to increase the democratic accountability of the next MFF negotiations

The topics of the ECON ICM are not known yet.

On the 2nd day the Interparliamentary Conference on Stability, Economic Coordination and Governance in the European Union (following Article 13 of the Treaty on Stability, Coordination and Governance in the EMU) will take place, co-hosted and co-chaired over by the Dutch Parliament and the European Parliament. It will provide a framework for debate and exchange of information and best practices in implementing the provisions of the Treaty in order to strengthen cooperation between national Parliaments and the EP and contribute to ensuring democratic accountability in the area of economic governance and budgetary policy in the EU.

12.3 Use of EMPL annual translation reserve (JK/LE)

The reserve was not used since the last Coordinators' meeting.

13. Dates of Coordinators' meetings 2016 - revised (JK/LE)

Coordinators agreed on the revised dates of the Coordinators' meetings in 2016 below:

Thursday, 14 January, 14.00-15.30

Thursday, 18 February, 14.00-15.30

Thursday, 17 March, 9:00-10:00²

Thursday, 14 April, 10.00-11.30³

Tuesday, 26 April, 17:30-18:30⁴

Thursday, 9 June, 10.00-11.30⁵

Tuesday, 21 June, 17:30-18:30⁶

Wednesday, 13 July, 17:30-18:30⁷

Thursday, 8 September, 14.00-15.30

² During EMPL meeting

³ Meeting in Strasbourg

⁴ During EMPL meeting

⁵ Meeting in Strasbourg

⁶ During EMPL meeting

⁷ During EMPL meeting

Thursday, 29 September, 14.00-15.30

Thursday, 20 October, 10.00-11.30

Thursday, 17 November, 10.00-11.30

Thursday, 15 December, 10.00-11.30⁸

14. Date of next Coordinators' meeting (JK/LE)

The next Coordinators' meeting will take place on 14 January 14:00-15:30.

⁸ Meeting in Strasbourg