



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2014 - 2019

Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

EMPL COORDINATORS' MEETING

Thursday, 18 February 2016, 14.00 - 15.30

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

RESULTS

18.2.2016

The meeting started at 14.00 hrs and closed at 15.15 hrs. In the Chair: Thomas Händel, EMPL Chair.

Present

Chair	Mr Thomas Händel, EMPL Chair
EPP	Mr David Casa, Coordinator
S&D	Ms Jutta Steinruck, Coordinator
ECR	Ms Anthea McIntyre, Coordinator
ALDE	Ms Marian Harkin, Coordinator
GUE/NGL	Mr João Pimenta Lopes, Co-Coordinator
GUE/NGL	Ms Rina Ronja Kari GUE/NGL Co-Coordinator
Greens/EFA	Ms Tatjana Ždanoka, replacing the Greens/EFA Coordinator
EFDD	Ms Laura Agea, Coordinator
ENF	Mr Dominique Martin, Coordinator

Apologies

Greens/EFA	Ms Jean Lambert, Coordinator
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1. Chair's announcements

1.1 Interpretation

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

1.2 State of play related to conflicts of competence

1.2.1 Creating Labour Market Conditions Favourable for Work-Life Balance EMPL-FEMM (ZP)

The Chairs of the two committees jointly proposed to apply the procedure with joint committee meetings (Rule 55) on the report, the final title of which is: *Creating Labour Market Conditions Favourable for Work-Life Balance*.

The report was allocated under point 2.1 of this agenda.

1.2.2 Request for the application of the procedure with associated committees (Rule 54) with regard to the Strategic Own-Initiative Report by TRAN Committee on "An Aviation Strategy for Europe" (CO)

Annex to this item includes the TRAN request and the EMPL letter to the CCC requesting Rule 54.

At the CCC of 2 February, EMPL Chair has requested the application of Rule 54 with regard to the Strategic Own-Initiative Report by TRAN Committee on "An Aviation Strategy for Europe", based on the Commission Communication with the same title, adopted on 7 December 2015 (As TRAN letter was sent to CCC just before their meeting, previous consultation with Coordinators was not possible).

In order to clarify on which part of the report the Rule 54 is requested, namely the chapter on **"Reinforcing the social agenda and creating high quality jobs in aviation"** from the Commission Communication "an Aviation Strategy for Europe", a letter was sent to CCC, making the respective clarification.

The next step, which is about to be engaged by EMPL Chair, is consultations between EMPL and TRAN Chairs, in view of an agreement on the application of Rule 54 and on what part of the report exactly. If an agreement is reached, a joint letter of the two committees should be sent to the CCC, who will take note of it (preferably before the next CCC meeting of 8 March).

1.2.3 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 (REGI) (MA)

Annex to this item includes the correspondence of the committees.

At their meeting of 7 December 2015, EMPL coordinators examined the legislative proposal for a regulation establishing a Structural Reform Support Programme, which was referred to the REGI Committee as lead committee and to EMPL, as well as other committees, for opinion. The coordinators' decision was as follows: **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.

Accordingly, on 10 December 2015 the EMPL Chair sent a letter to the CCC to request the application of the procedure with associated committees (Rule 54) for this file.

By letter of 13 January 2016, the Chair of the ECON Committee requested the attribution of the file to ECON as lead committee or, as a possible compromise solution, the application of the procedure with joint committee meetings (Rule 55) with REGI.

The issue was on the agenda of the CCC meeting of 19 January 2016 (point without discussion); the 3 committees were given a deadline until 29 January 2016 to come to an agreement. In the meanwhile, on 19 January 2016 the BUDG Committee also introduced a request to be associated to the REGI Committee under Rule 54 (this request was on the agenda of the CCC meeting of 2 February 2016 as a point without discussion).

On 27 January 2016 a meeting between the chairpersons of the 4 committees involved took place, but no agreement could be found. On 29 January 2016 the REGI Chair sent 3 letters to the CCC rejecting the requests by ECON, EMPL and BUDG.

The CCC is therefore entrusted with preparing a recommendation, to be adopted most likely at the beginning of March 2016, on the basis of which the Conference of Presidents shall take a decision.

1.3 Frans Timmermans will attend the CCC meeting in March

If political groups have any particular concern that they wish to be raised at the discussion with the Vice-President at the March CCC, they are invited to send them to the Chair in due time before the meeting.

Decision: *Coordinators are invited to send any particular concern that they wish to be raised at the discussion to the secretariat before Tuesday, 8 March.*

1.4 Structured dialogue, implementation of 2016 Work Programme, priorities for 2017

Decision: *In the context of the annual structured dialogue between parliamentary committees and Commissioners, Commissioner Thyssen will be invited to EMPL to discuss the implementation of the 2016 CWP and the priorities for the coming year. The invitation will be sent to the Commissioner to one of the EMPL meetings in the spring, possibly in May.*

1.5 ECON Financial Assistance Working Group

During the CCC meeting of 2 February 2016 I raised a number of issues concerning the new 'Financial Assistance Working Group' which is currently being set up under the aegis of the ECON Committee.

The Conference of Presidents authorised this working group by decisions of 2 December 2015 and 28 January 2016, on the basis of a proposal from a political group without prior involvement of the CCC and the other committees concerned. I understand that 30 members of the FAWG will be from among ECON members, whereas only eight places are available for representatives of the four other committees with legitimate interest, viz. BUDG, CONT, EMPL and REGI. As of today, it is unclear how those representatives should be appointed. The agenda, the working arrangements and the draft work

programme of the FAWG were prepared without involvement of the associated committees.

Several aspects of the adjustments to be carried out in programme and post-programme countries go beyond economic and monetary policies. The Employment Committee plays an important role in the European Semester process and has a legitimate interest to follow e.g. employment and social issues related to the Memorandum of Understanding with Greece. This is why EMPL has established a Working Group on 'Monitoring the implementation of labour market and social reforms in Greece under the Memorandum of Understanding'.

Decision: *In a letter to Mr Buzek, the Chair will request that the practical issues of cooperation between committees in the context of financial assistance to Member States be put on the agenda of the next CCC.*

1.6 Invitation to Allan Larsson as Special Adviser for the European Pillar of Social Rights

On 19 January, President Jean-Claude Juncker appointed Mr Allan Larsson as Special Adviser on the European Pillar of Social Rights.

Mr Larsson, who has extensive policy experience at national, European and international levels, as well as in academia, will assist President Juncker and the College of Commissioners in drawing up and launching a broad consultation on the European Pillar of Social Rights. The Pillar is expected to be a self-standing reference document, of a legal nature, setting out key principles and values shared at EU level. In turn, this should serve as a framework to screen employment and social performance in the light of changing work patterns and societies.

Decision: *Mr Larsson will be invited to come to EMPL to discuss his ideas, possibly on 22 March. See also the decision taken under point 11.*

1.7 Request for an opinion from FRA regarding the Framework of the EU to promote, protect, and monitor the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Annex to this item includes the letter with the request.

Helga Stevens and Ádám Kósa proposed that the EMPL Committee request the Fundamental Rights Agency as Member of the Framework and the EU's Agency with the relevant responsibility to deliver an opinion to ensure that EU as a party to the CRPD can comply with the Concluding Observations and adequately monitor and implement the provisions in the Convention.

Decision: *Coordinators endorsed the proposal to request an opinion from FRA.*

2. Allocation of reports and opinions

Reports

2.1 Creating Labour Market Conditions Favourable for Work-Life Balance (ZP)

Responsible: EMPL/FEMM

Decision: *Rapporteur to be nominated by the Greens/EFA Group.*

2.2 Proposal for a Council decision on guidelines for the employment policies of the Member States (MM)

Responsible: EMPL

Opinions:

Decision: *Apply the simplified procedure (Rule 50) with the Chair appointed as Rapporteur.*

Opinions

2.3 Report on the application of Council Directive 2004/113/EC implementing the principle of equal treatment between men and women in the access to and supply of goods and services (CO)

EMPL/8/05520 - 2016/2012(INI)

Responsible: FEMM
JURI

Opinions: EMPL, ITRE, IMCO, TRAN,

Decision: *No opinion.*

Closely follow the future assessment by Commission (announced in the conclusions of this report) of the application of gender differentiated conditions to occupational pensions under Directive 2006/54/EC and also regarding the assessment on whether action is necessary to ensure the comprehensive application of the unisex rule in all pillars of the pension system, whether voluntary, occupational or statutory.

2.4 Report on the application of the Postal Services Directive (ZP)

TRAN/8/05514 - 2016/2010(INI)

Responsible: TRAN

Opinions: ITRE, IMCO

Decision: *Rapporteur to be nominated by the EPP Group. Coordinators decided to introduce a request to apply procedure with associated committees (Rule 54).*

Documents received for information

2.5 Employment and Social Developments in Europe 2015 Executive Summary - SWD(2016)0007

3. Experts to the EMPL/FEMM hearing on work-life balance (ZP)

In their annual programme, FEMM committee has been authorised to organise a hearing on the topic of work-life balance and the hearing is planned to take place on 22 or 23 March in the frame of the FEMM committee meeting.

Regarding the recent agreement between EMPL and FEMM committees to proceed with the initiative report entitled "Creating Labour Market Conditions Favourable for Work-Life Balance" under the procedure with joint committee meetings (Rule 55), the hearing – which serves as an input to the report – shall also take place as a joint event of the two committees.

Therefore political groups were asked to send proposals for experts until 10 February noon to the secretariat, in order to prepare the selection of experts at the current Coordinators' meeting.

Decision: Coordinators selected the following experts:

- 1. Serenella Molendini, Italian senior professional in the field of labour market, gender equality and social policy;***
- 2. Domenico De Masi, labour sociologist;***
- 3. A representative of Eurofound as a joint proposal with FEMM committee.***

4. Delegation visits in 2016 – second half year (ZP)

Committees were asked to provide their programme for committee travels

- by the end of February regarding travelling until October

- by the end of March regarding the rest of 2016.

Decision: Coordinators decided to organise the following delegation visits in the 2nd half of 2016:

- *Turkey, with the aim to examine social and labour market integration of refugees – during the week of 19-23 September 2016*
- *Malta, as the country holding the EU Presidency – during the week of 31 October – 4 November 2016*
- *European Training Foundation (Turin), on the basis on the traditional bi-annual rotation between the four agencies the relations for which EMPL is responsible – during the week of 31 October – 4 November 2016*

5. Public hearings in 2016 – second half year (ZP)

The Conference of Committee Chairs asked committees to send the requests for hearings during the 2nd half of 2016 by Thursday, 25 February 2016, at the latest.

Since EMPL Coordinators have only the current meeting to take this decision, the Chair asked political groups to send their proposals for hearings for the 2nd half of 2016 by e-mail at the latest by **10 February noon** to the secretariat, in order to prepare the decision on the hearings at the Coordinators' meeting today.

Decision: Coordinators decided to organise hearings on the following topics in the 2nd half of 2016:

- *Labour mobility package*
- *Health and safety related to the new generation jobs*
- *Mitigating the use of artificial intelligence and robots in employment with the employees' financial participation*

6. EMPL Delegation to Slovakia (ZP)

At their meeting of 28 September 2015, EMPL Coordinators decided to request authorisation for delegation visits in the 1st half of 2016, including to Slovakia, as the country holding the Presidency of the Council of the European Union from July to December 2016. The visit shall take place during the week of 16-20 May (exact date to be decided) and the delegation shall be composed of up to 9 Members.

At its meeting of 23 November 2015, the Bureau of the EP authorised the EMPL delegation visit during week 20. In its same decision the Bureau also welcomed the fact that the ECON and EMPL Committees have shown a willingness to coordinate, where possible, the programmes of their mission to Bratislava, Slovakia.

The main purpose of the delegation visit to Slovakia will be to discuss the priorities of the incoming Council Presidency, with particular interest on the labour mobility package, the publication of which is expected this year. The delegation will also look at the state of play in the fields of social affairs and employment.

Decision: Coordinators

- *confirmed that the delegation visit will take place from 17 to 19 May 2016,*
- *invited political groups to communicate to the Secretariat by 4 March 2016:*
 - *names of Members taking part in the delegation¹;*
 - *issues of particular interest to be discussed during the visit;*
- *instructed Policy Department A to provide a briefing note on the employment and social situation in Slovakia.*

¹ EPP Group confirmed that they use only one seat in this delegation.

6a. Oral Question: Fighting inequalities to boost economic growth in the EU

The ALDE Group proposed a suggestion for an EMPL Oral Question (see the text below) for the plenary session.

The text of the proposal:

“There is a growing consensus in international organisations like the OECD and the IMF, on the need to address the ongoing increase in income inequality that is damaging economic growth. Inequality in many OECD countries is at its highest level since records began and raises not only social and political concerns, but also economic ones since it has a negative impact on GDP growth, which measures the general level of economic activity.

In particular, The OECD’s report, “In it Together: Why Less Inequality Benefits All”, highlights that “lowering inequality by 1-Gini point would translate into an increase in cumulative growth of 0.8% in the following five years”. In other words, real and lasting GDP growth, at this point, can be better achieved in an environment of more equality.

Inequality has increased at different rates depending on the European country. But this disequilibrium can hamper growth and undermine the whole European project. It seems appropriate to quote a statement contained in the aforementioned report: “the challenge, therefore, is to find appropriate policy packages that are both growth-friendly and that reduce inequality”.

In the European Commission’s 2016 Work Program, inequality is identified one of the major challenges for our society, however, it seems that this program do not foresee any tool or political initiative to reduce economic inequality. Therefore, the growth rates which might be achieved by the EU in the next years could be seriously lessened.

Does the Commission believe that its Work Program 2016 sufficiently addresses the decline in growth due to the growing inequalities among European citizens? If so, could you please specify in which policies and under which headings these are included in the program? Will the Commission take into consideration the inclusion of specific policies that might allow the EU to move forward towards the objective of favouring economic growth by reducing inequality in its next Work Programme, and if so, what measures are being envisaged? Can the Commission specify these measures?”

(b) Optional timetable (aiming for the April plenary session):

Deadline for amendments in English only: 25 February noon.

Vote in EMPL: 16-17 March

Decision: Coordinators:

- *agreed to submit an oral question on the subject to an upcoming plenary session – possibly in April*

- *decided that the deadline for tabling amendments in English only would be 25 February noon and the vote in EMPL would take place on 16-17 March*
- *invited the groups to appoint one sponsor each for the oral question.*

7. Possible lowering of standards of workers' protection (RS)

Coordinators' attention should be drawn to the possibility that standards of workers' protection might be lowered through various initiatives by the Commission and the Council, such as "better regulation" (includes the proposed interinstitutional agreement on better law making), see http://ec.europa.eu/smart-regulation/index_en.htm, or the Letter by President Donald Tusk to the Members of the European Council on his proposal for a new settlement for the United Kingdom within the European Union, 2 February 2016: <http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2016/02/02-letter-tusk-proposal-new-settlement-uk/>). See also the Commission Work Programme 2016: http://ec.europa.eu/atwork/key-documents/index_en.htm

Decision: *Coordinators decided to allocate sufficient time for discussing this issue at one of the next Coordinators' meetings, depending on the progress of the above-mentioned files. Coordinators also noted that the discussion would continue in a committee meeting at an appropriate occasion.*

8. Joint ECON/EMPL hearing on "Reasons, repercussions and remedies of economic inequality in the EU" (MM)

As it was announced at the Coordinators' meeting of 12 November 2015, at the CCC meeting of 27 October 2015 the EMPL Chair expressed the wish to be associated to the ECON hearing on "Reasons, repercussions and remedies of economic inequalities in the EU" as the topic falls under the remit of both the EMPL and ECON Committees. The two Chairs agreed on the following arrangements:

- The hearing is held during a mutually agreeable time-slot of the ECON Committee
- The hearing will be co-chaired
- One half of the total number of experts will be determined by ECON, the other half by EMPL
- Experts whose expenses are in want of reimbursement will be reimbursed by the budgetary appropriations of the committee which nominated the expert in question.

It is proposed to hold the joint hearing in a mutually agreeable time-slot in June. The date will be fixed together with ECON in the following weeks.

Decision: The Coordinators were invited to propose names of experts (up to 2 EMPL experts with an entitlement to claim travel expenses) by 3 March 2016, end of business. The final decision on the experts to be invited will be taken at the next Coordinators' meeting.

9. Energy Union - impact on employment- invitation to Vice-President Šef ovi (CO)

The Energy Union Package is one of the Commission's main priority actions. Following up on the Framework Strategy, the Package is composed of: legislative proposals on electricity market design and the regulatory framework, including the review of the Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators (ACER), and the revision of the Regulation on security of electricity supply; the revision of the Regulation on security of gas supply and the revision of the Decision on inter-governmental agreements; the effort sharing decision and integration of the Land Use, Land-Use Change and Forestry sector (LULUCF) into the 2030 climate framework; a renewable energy package (REFIT), including sustainability criteria for biomass, and an energy efficiency package, including energy efficiency for buildings (REFIT)."

Mr Sefcovic presented the State of the Energy Union^[1] in the CCC on 19 January 2016.

The Commission wrote in this Communication, in rather general terms: "The energy transition will lead to changes in many sectors and therefore requires a closer involvement of the social partners. This could include ensuring that skills and training schemes match the needs of new job profiles, looking at working conditions in new sectors or facilitating a socially fair transition in sectors or regions where jobs will be lost. The Commission has started to engage with the Social Partners at the European level and will continue this dialogue in 2016. It encourages Member States to equally discuss with social partners the consequences of the energy transition and how they can best be anticipated and managed. The new EU-wide Skills Agenda that the Commission is preparing should set out measures on how to better anticipate skills needs and improve the transparency and recognition of qualifications." - "... employment has grown in the renewable energy sector, with almost half a million additional jobs created in the EU in the last five years."^[3]

Note: In 2013, employment in the energy sector in the EU 28 was 0.53% of total employment.

From the perspective of the EMPL Committee, it would seem appropriate to have a clearer vision as to the job-creation and job-destruction potential, as well as of the skills requirements, of each of the proposed measures. The steel sector seems particularly exposed. (2)

Decision: Coordinators decided to invite Vice-President Šef ovi to a future EMPL meeting, to discuss the consequences for employment triggered by the energy transition.

^[1]COM(2015)572

http://eur-lex.europa.eu/resource.html?uri=cellar:ebdf266c-8eab-11e5-983e-01aa75ed71a1.0008.02/DOC_1&format=PDF
http://ec.europa.eu/priorities/energy-union-and-climate/state-energy-union_en

^[3] Both quotes taken from COM(2015)572, p. 14.

² <http://www.theguardian.com/business/2015/oct/20/tata-steel-expected-to-announce-1200-job-losses-in-uk>

10. Digital Agenda - impact on employment - invitation to Commissioner Öttinger (LS/RS)

Along the lines of the invitation of VP Šef ovi , Coordinators could consider to invite Commissioner Öttinger for an exchange of views on the consequences of the Commission's Digital Agenda, in particular the Digital Single Market Act, for employment, wages and skills.

The EMPL Committee adopted on 10 November an opinion to the IMCO/ITRE INI report on Towards a Digital Single Market Act (Gebhardt/Kallas report

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?type=REPORT&mode=XML&reference=A8-2015-0371&language=EN> - Steinruck Opinion,

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?type=COMPARL&mode=XML&language=EN&reference=PE560.716&secondRef=03>) .

The Resolution addressed some important employment and social aspects in its final version (see conclusions 30, 81, 115).

Decision: *Coordinators decided to invite Commissioner Öttinger to a future EMPL meeting. The timing would be decided in the light of the progress of the Working Group on Digitalisation.*

10a. Eurofound requests for sponsorship and participation in a one-day joint conference on Quality of work and employment (17 November 2016) (CO)

EUROFOUND sent a request for the sponsorship and participation of the EP EMPL committee in a one-day joint conference to present Eurofound Overview report from the 6th European Working Conditions Survey (EWCS) which will aim to facilitate a high-level debate between key European policy-makers around the issue.

For your information, Eurofound has carried out the European Working Conditions Survey since its launch in 1990 and it has provided an overview of working conditions in Europe in order to:

- Assess and quantify working conditions of both employees and the self-employed across Europe on a harmonised basis
- Analyse relationships between different aspects of working conditions
- Identify groups at risk and issues of concern as well as of progress
- Monitor trends by providing homogeneous indicators on these issues
- Contribute to European policy development in particular on quality of work and employment issues.

The scope of the survey questionnaire has widened substantially since the first edition, aiming to provide a comprehensive picture of the everyday reality of men and women at work. Gender mainstreaming has been an important concern for recent reviews of the questionnaire.

The survey today explores quality of work issues and provides information on exposure to physical and psychosocial risks, working time duration and organisation, employment status and contract, place of work, work organisation, work life balance and spillover between work and life outside work, training and learning at work, voice at the workplace, health and well-being as well as earnings. This sixth wave of the European Working Conditions Survey is an important landmark for Eurofound because it builds on the lessons learned from the previous five surveys and provides a rich portrait of workplace trends in Europe over the last 25 years.

In each wave a random sample of workers (employees and self-employed) has been interviewed face to face. The face-to-face interviews were carried out in peoples' homes and covered a comprehensive **list of questions** on individual's working conditions. All the information gathered was treated in the strictest confidentiality and the anonymity of each interviewee is guaranteed.

To date, Eurofound has carried out six European working conditions surveys (1991, 1995, 2000/2001, 2005, 2010 and 2015). The evolution of the EWCS follows the changes in the composition of the EU itself over the last 25 years and interest from the EFTA countries so that the geographical coverage of the survey has expanded.

Eurofound carried out its sixth European Working Conditions Survey (EWCS) in 2015. The sixth European Working Conditions Survey includes the 28 EU Member States, the five EU candidate countries (Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, and Turkey), as well as Switzerland and Norway: a total of 35 countries, making this wave the most comprehensive one so far, in terms of number of countries covered.

Decision: The Coordinators

- *took note of the request from Eurofound*

- *decided to jointly organise a conference – with not more than 100 participants – on "Working Conditions in Europe", to be held in the framework of an extraordinary EMPL meeting on 17 November 2016 (am and pm), with the participation of speakers invited by Eurofound, such as: ILO, OECD, EU-OSHA, European social partners, the Commissioner etc.*
- *noted that they would be informed of any further developments in due course.*

11. Setting up a European pillar of social rights (MK)

Background information

I. On 27 January 2016, following up on President Juncker's 2015 State of the Union address on 9 September 2015 and in line with the 2016 Commission Work Programme, the College of Commissioners held a first orientation debate on establishing a European Pillar of Social Rights. The Pillar should be a self-standing document, which would serve as a framework to screen employment and social performance in the light of changing work patterns and societies and, more generally, as a compass for the renewed process of convergence within the euro area. Vice-President Valdis Dombrovskis, responsible for the Euro and Social Dialogue, commented: "The European Pillar of Social Rights is the cornerstone of the Commission's ambition to power convergence; to bring our economies and social priorities more aligned, closer to the best performers. The time has come to establish a consolidated and clear set of social rights that properly reflect the changing realities of 21st century Europe. We will launch a wider consultation to ensure that the European Pillar of Social Rights captures the views of all stakeholders." Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs, Skills and Labour Mobility, Marianne Thyssen, said: "We know that the world of work is rapidly changing. This entails new opportunities, but also new challenges. We need to ensure that workers can be offered decent protection today and tomorrow. I am determined to deliver on the promise of giving Europe a "Social Triple A" rating. The European Pillar of Social Rights will deliver the framework to do so." The Commission will launch a broad consultation in a few weeks. Social partners, national, regional and local authorities as well as civil society will be invited to contribute.

On 28.01.2016 the Economic and Social Committee asked the President of the EP to address to it a request to deliver to the EP an exploratory opinion concerning the Commission project for a European Pillar of Social Rights. The reasoning of the request regarding the setting up a European pillar of social rights is as follows:

- *Europe is facing an economic and social crisis particularly in peripheral countries, but poverty and social exclusion are increasing across the EU. A poorly managed arrival of refugees is likely to exacerbate the situation. It will be necessary, more than ever before, to defend the European social model, placing special emphasis on social investment as a productive factor and on efficient and reliable social benefit systems, and to fight against social regression.*
- *Given the EESC's wide experience in the field of social policy and social inclusion, it could ensure a substantial contribution to the construction of a European pillar of social rights and thus also contribute to the implementation of sustainable development goals in the EU. During the preparatory stage, the EESC could put forward concrete proposals in this matter through an exploratory opinion at the request of the EP. Legislation and other elements, such as benchmarking, could be a step towards the setting up of a codex of social rights and their implementation.*

II. The established procedure in such cases pursuant to Rule 137 of the Rules of Procedure is:

The committee responsible (EMPL) is addressing a letter to the President of the EP to call the EESC to deliver an exploratory opinion to the EP. The referral letter to the EESC is announced and adopted in Plenary.

Decision: *Coordinators decided to address a letter to President Schulz to ask the EESC to deliver an exploratory opinion to the EP on the setting up of a European pillar of social rights. See also the decision under point 1.6.*

12. Petitions (MA)

A. Petitions received for opinion

none

B. Petitions received for information

(more information on PETI web portal: www.petiport.europarl.europa.eu/petitions/en/main)

1. Petition No 2113/2014 by Athanasia Papadopoulou (Greek), on maladministration related to interim staff in EU agencies

Decision: No action was needed; the petition has been forwarded to EMPL for information only.

2. Petition No 0074/2015 by Gyula Implom (Hungarian), on the precarious situation of the disabled in Hungary

Decision: No action was needed; the petition has been forwarded to EMPL for information only.

13. Motions for Resolution³ - decision on procedure (MA)

Annex: text of the motions

13.1 B8-1436/2015 - Motion for a European Parliament resolution on certain aspects of the organisation of working time in the healthcare and hospital sector

Decision: *Coordinators took note of the motion for resolution and confirmed that no further action was needed in view of the ongoing committee activities.*

13.2 B8-0028/2016- Motion for a European Parliament resolution on the establishment of a standing working group on child poverty

Decision: *Coordinators took note of the motion for resolution and confirmed that no further action was needed in view of the ongoing committee activities.*

13.3 B8-0123/2016- Motion for a European Parliament resolution on teachers' health

Decision: *Coordinators took note of the motion for resolution and confirmed that no further action was needed in view of the ongoing committee activities.*

³ 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.

14. Points for information

14.1 Timetables

Reports

How best to harness the job creation potential of small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) (EMPL/8/01434): Zdzisław Krasnodębski (ECR)

Exchange of views with stakeholders	23 February
Deadline to send draft report to translation	29 February
Consideration of draft	22-23 March
<i>Deadline for AMs</i>	<i>5 April, 12h00</i>
Consideration of AMs - TBC	26 April
Shadow Rapporteurs meeting - compromises	Weeks 18 to 23
Adoption in EMPL	15-16 June
Plenary estimate	September (tbc)

Social dumping in the European Union (EMPL/8/03787): Guillaume Balas (S&D) (REVISED)

Consideration of draft report	25 January
<i>Deadline for tabling AMs</i>	<i>16 February at 12h00</i>
Consideration of AMs	16/17 March
Shadow rapporteurs' meeting(s) in view of compromises	Weeks 11-12,14-15
Deadline for finalisation of negotiated compromises (includes indication of political support)	13 April, cob
Deadline for comments to the pre-final voting list	18 April, 16h00
Sending out of final voting list	18 April, after 16.00
Vote in EMPL	19 April
Plenary estimate	June (tbc)

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)
Revised timetable

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	22 March 2016
Consideration of AMs tabled	26 April 2016
Vote EMPL	30 May 2016

Opinions:

EU strategy for the Alpine region (EMPL/8/05071): Jérôme Lavrilleux (EPP)

Deadline to send draft opinion to translation	3 February 2016
Presentation and consideration of draft opinion in Committee	23 February
<i>Deadline for tabling AMs</i>	<i>3 March, 12h00</i>
Shadow rapporteurs' meeting(s) in view of compromises	Weeks 14, 15, 16
Deadline for finalisation of negotiated compromises (includes indication of political support)	21 April
Deadline for comments to the pre-final voting list	25 April, 16h00
Sending out of final voting list	25 April, after 16h00
Adoption EMPL	26 April
Adoption lead Committee REGI	15/16 June
Plenary estimate	September (tbc)

The Single Market Strategy EMPL/8/05402 2015/2354(INI): Ulrike Trebesius (ECR)

Decision by Coordinators	14 January
Deadline to send draft opinion to translation	27 January
Consideration of draft opinion	17-18 February
<i>Deadline for tabling AMs</i>	<i>23 February, 12H00</i>
Vote in EMPL	22-23 March
Vote in IMCO	21 April 2016
Vote in Plenary	May I 2016 (tbc)

Implementation report on Erasmus+ (EMPL/8/05084): Emilian Pavel (S&D)

Send draft to Translation	7 September
Consideration of draft report	26 September
Deadline for tabling AMs	29 September at 12h00
Shadow rapporteurs' meeting(s) in view of compromises	Weeks 42-43
Adoption EMPL	8 November
Adoption CULT	28 November
Adoption in Plenary	December 2016 (tbc)

EU Youth Report 2015: assessment of the EU Youth Strategy 2013-2015:

VANDENKENDELAERE

Decision by coordinators	14 January 2016
Deadline to send draft opinion to translation	22 February 2016 (noon)
Presentation and consideration of draft opinion in Committee	16-17 March
<i>Deadline for tabling AMs</i>	<i>22 March, 12h00</i>
Shadows meetings	Weeks 14-15-16
Adoption EMPL	26 April
<i>Adoption CULT</i>	<i>30 May</i>
Plenary estimate	July (tbc)

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

Decision: *Coordinators noted that three extra pages were granted to be used from the EMPL annual translation reserve (total of 45 pages) in Renate Weber's draft report on Employment Equality Directive: age, disability, religion and belief and sexual orientation and that two extra pages were granted to be used from the EMPL annual translation reserve (total of 45 pages) in Thomas Händel's draft report on Workers representation on board level in Europe.*

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

The next Coordinators' meeting will take place on 17 March 09:00-10:00.

16. Any other business

Decisions:

- a. Coordinators noted a proposal from the S&D Group to submit a request for an implementation report on the social and employment aspects of the Charter of Fundamental Rights.*
- b. In the context of the work of the EMPL Working Group on Labour market impacts of digitalisation, robotics and artificial intelligence, Coordinators agreed to visit the German Research Centre for Artificial Intelligence in Kaiserslautern, preferably on Monday 4th July, on the way to the Strasbourg session and open to all EMPL Members. (RS/CO)*