

**Question for oral answer O-000020/2023  
to the Commission**

Rule 136

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on behalf of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

**Subject:** Strengthening social dialogue in the European Union

Social dialogue is a fundamental part of the European social model. It is a key driver for economic and social resilience, competitiveness, fairness and sustainable growth, and is crucial for finding balanced responses to new and existing needs and challenges relating to the labour market and working conditions. Over the past 30 years, the share of workers covered by collective agreements has declined, with the estimated EU average falling from about 66 % in 2000 to about 56 % in 2018.

Given this:

1. How will the Commission, jointly with Member States and the social partners, monitor the effective implementation of the proposed recommendation? What concrete indicators and data will be used to measure progress towards greater collective bargaining coverage?
2. How will the Commission support Member States in promoting the inclusion of more sectors in social dialogue and ensure the allocation of adequate resources, particularly through the European Social Fund Plus? How will the Commission ensure that the proposed recommendation complements Article 4 of the Directive (EU) 2022/2041, in particular in terms of measures to increase national collective bargaining coverage?
3. How will the Commission support Member States in tackling legal or institutional barriers to social dialogue and addressing anti-trade union practices, the lack of representation and the increase in non-standard forms of work that may lead to precariousness, in order to ensure that workers and trade union representatives can exercise their fundamental rights to organise and collectively bargain without any interference, adverse treatment or consequences negatively impacting their employment?
4. How will the Commission ensure that the assigned social dialogue coordinators will be involved in all employment-related aspects of EU policymaking across all policy areas? How will the Commission guarantee financing for European sectoral dialogue in the long term?
5. What steps will the Commission take to promote the role of social dialogue in addressing climate and digitalisation issues in the workplace and achieving a just transition?

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Lapses: 19.7.2023