



Европейски парламент Parlamento Europeo Evropský parlament Europa-Parlamentet Europäisches Parlament
Euroopa Parlament Ευρωπαϊκό Κοινοβούλιο European Parliament Parlement européen Parlaimint na hEorpa
Europski parlament Parlamento europeo Eiropas Parlaments Europos Parlamentas Európai Parlament
Parlament Ewropew Europees Parlement Parlament Europejski Parlamento Europeu Parlamentul European
Európsky parlament Evropski parlament Euroopan parlamentti Europaparlamentet

List of publications from the EP Think Tank

<https://www.europarl.europa.eu/thinktank>

Search criteria used to generate the list :

Sort Sort by date
Author "LECERF Marie"

56 Result(s)

Creation date : 20-04-2024

[European disability card and European parking card](#)

Publication type At a Glance

Date 16-04-2024

Author LECERF Marie

Policy area Gender Issues, Equality and Diversity

Summary Over time, the European Union has come to pay increasing attention to the issue of free movement for persons with disabilities, which amount to one in four people in the EU. On 6 September 2023, the European Commission launched a legislative initiative to create a European disability card and European parking card, to be recognised in all Member States. The final text agreed in trilogue is to be voted during the April II plenary session.

[At a Glance](#) [DE](#), [EN](#), [ES](#), [FR](#), [IT](#), [PL](#)

[Understanding EU action on Roma inclusion](#)

Publication type Briefing

Date 25-03-2024

Author LECERF Marie

Policy area Gender Issues, Equality and Diversity

Keyword civil society | documentation | EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS | ethnic discrimination | EU action | European construction | EUROPEAN UNION | LAW | marginalisation | POLITICS | politics and public safety | racial discrimination | report | rights and freedoms | Roma | social affairs | social framework | social integration | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary The Roma are Europe's largest ethnic minority. Out of an estimated total of 10 to 12 million Roma in Europe as a whole, some 6 million live in the European Union (EU) and most of them are citizens of an EU Member State. A significant number of Roma people live in very poor socio-economic conditions. The social exclusion, discrimination and segregation they face are mutually reinforcing. Their restricted access to education and difficulties entering the labour market result in low income and poor health compared with non-Roma people. Since the mid-1990s, the EU has been stressing the need for better Roma inclusion. In 2011, a key EU initiative was launched with the adoption of an EU framework for national Roma integration strategies up to 2020. The aim was to tackle the socio-economic exclusion of and discrimination against Roma, by promoting equal access in four key areas: education, employment, health and housing. When the framework came to an end, in early October 2020 the European Commission adopted a new strategy for 2021 to 2030. Through this new strategy, Member States were invited to tackle the disproportionate impact of the pandemic on Roma people. In March 2021, the Council adopted a recommendation on Roma equality, inclusion and participation, replacing an earlier one from 2013. This recommendation encouraged Member States to adopt strategic frameworks for the inclusion of Roma communities. The EU also supports Member States in their duty to improve the lives of all vulnerable people, including Roma people, through the European structural and investment funds and other funding instruments. Issues relating to the promotion of democratic values and practices, and economic, social and cultural rights for Roma people have received particular attention from civil society organisations, while Parliament has been advocating for Roma inclusion since the 1990s. This is an update of a briefing published in April 2023.

[Briefing](#) [EN](#)

[People with disabilities and the European elections](#)

Publication type At a Glance

Date 23-02-2024

Author LECERF Marie

Policy area Gender Issues, Equality and Diversity

Keyword area of freedom, security and justice | disabled person | electoral law | electoral procedure and voting | European construction | European election | EUROPEAN UNION | human rights | LAW | POLITICS | right to vote | rights and freedoms | social affairs | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary People with disabilities still find it hard to participate in elections in the European Union. This infographic compares national practices aimed at helping people with disabilities exercise their electoral rights in the EU.

[At a Glance](#) [EN](#)

The European disability card and European parking card

Publication type Briefing

Date 01-02-2024

Author LECERF Marie

Policy area Gender Issues, Equality and Diversity

Keyword construction and town planning | disabled person | European social policy | EUROPEAN UNION | European Union law | free movement of persons | health | health card | international law | LAW | parking area | proposal (EU) | social affairs | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary One in four people in the European Union has some form of disability. Over time, the EU has paid more attention to the issue of free movement for persons with disabilities, and in February 2016 launched a European disability card scheme as a pilot project in eight Member States. Based on the experience and assessment of the EU disability card pilot project and the European parking card for persons with disabilities, the European Commission launched a legislative initiative on 6 September 2023 to create a European disability card, to be recognised in all Member States. On 31 October 2023, the Commission put forward a second proposal for a directive extending the cards to third-country nationals (the 'follow-up proposal'). On 27 November 2023, the Council agreed its general approach. On 11 January 2024, the Employment and Social Affairs Committee (EMPL) adopted its report and a decision to enter into interinstitutional negotiations based on that report. The Parliament mandate was endorsed in plenary during the January 2024 session and interinstitutional negotiations were launched on 17 January. The first trilogue took place on 25 January 2024 at the Council. First edition. The 'EU Legislation in Progress' briefings are updated at key stages throughout the legislative procedure.

Briefing [EN](#)

Understanding EU policies for people with disabilities

Publication type Briefing

Date 27-11-2023

Author LECERF Marie

Policy area Gender Issues, Equality and Diversity

Keyword care of the disabled | coronavirus disease | data collection | disabled person | discrimination based on disability | EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | epidemic | equal treatment | health | health statistics | information technology and data processing | labour market | LAW | rights and freedoms | social affairs | social protection | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | worker with disabilities

Summary The EU and its Member States have signed the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and use its definition of disability as a common reference at EU level. There is no other harmonised definition of disability in the EU. Although a wide variety of statistical surveys are available in terms of questions asked and population surveyed, a complete statistical assessment of disability in the EU does not yet exist. However, the annual Eurostat statistics on income and living conditions survey reveals that, in Europe, the prevalence of disability is higher among female, older and less educated respondents. The EU combats all forms of discrimination alongside and in support of its Member States. To improve the situation of people with disabilities, it has introduced a series of initiatives, programmes and strategies over a number of decades. The European Parliament has been highly active in the bid to end all forms of discrimination against people with disabilities, since the early 1980s. In 1997, Article 13 of the Treaty establishing the European Community on the human right not to suffer discrimination on grounds, in particular, of disability, paved the way for a genuine disability policy. The first step in this regard was the adoption of a 2001-2006 action programme to combat discrimination. Later, the 2010-2020 European disability strategy sought to enable people with disabilities to exercise their rights and participate fully in society and the economy. The 2021-2030 strategy, incorporating lessons learned from its predecessor, seeks to ensure that all persons with disabilities in the EU, regardless of their sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, age or sexual orientation: enjoy their human rights; have equal access to participation in society and the economy; can decide where, how and with whom they live; can move freely in the EU regardless of their support needs; and no longer experience discrimination. This is an update of a briefing published in November 2022.

Briefing [EN](#)

European Disability Card - Pre-legislative synthesis of national, regional and local positions on the European Commission's initiative

Publication type Briefing

Date 06-09-2023

Author COLLOVA Claudio | LECERF Marie

Policy area Public Health | Social Policy

Keyword application of EU law | digitisation | documentation | EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS | EUROPEAN UNION | European Union law | health | health card | mentally disabled person | physically disabled person | social affairs | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary This briefing provides a pre-legislative synthesis of the positions of national, regional and local governmental organisations on the European Commission's forthcoming proposal on the European Disability Card. It forms part of an EPRS series offering a summary of the pre-legislative state of play and advance consultation on a range of key European Commission priorities during its 5-year term in office. It seeks to present the current state of affairs, to examine how existing policy is working on the ground, and to identify best practice and ideas for the future on the part of governmental organisations at all levels of the European system of multi-level governance. EPRS analysis of the positions of partner organisations at European Union (EU), national, regional and local levels suggests that they would like the following main considerations to be reflected in discussion of the forthcoming proposal on the European Disability Card: * Governmental organisations at local, regional, national and EU level support the European Disability Card initiative, going beyond the eight Member States that have tested the card as a pilot project (Belgium, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, Italy, Malta, Romania, and Slovenia). * These eight Member States have continued to innovate, for instance by improving communication with new websites, and increasing the overall number of benefits providers. At least one Member State is going to issue the EU Disability Card automatically as soon as citizens receive recognition of their disability status. Lessons learned include the need to coordinate among the organisations in charge of the card's implementation. Regional and local authorities played a role in all of the governance models used to implement the card. * Among the Member States that have not yet tested the card, some governmental organisations at national level are concerned that the European Disability Card should not raise expectations that cannot be met, and that the card can co-exist with different rules at national level. Other organisations would be open to expanding the card's application beyond culture, leisure and sport, and would open up the list to other sectors, such as transport, health, employment and education. * There is broad agreement that the future European Disability Card should not be merged with the EU Parking Card. Organisations from some Member States suggest that, while remaining distinct, the two cards could be linked. There is also agreement that disabled citizens need access to both a digital and physical card.

Briefing [EN](#)

Equal pay for equal work between men and women: Pay transparency and enforcement mechanisms

Publication type Briefing

Date 23-06-2023

Author LECERF Marie

Policy area Gender Issues, Equality and Diversity

Keyword economic discrimination | employment | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | equal pay | equal treatment | EU employment policy | EUROPEAN UNION | European Union law | gender equality | LAW | organisation of work and working conditions | personnel management and staff remuneration | proposal (EU) | remuneration of work | rights and freedoms | sexual discrimination | working conditions

Summary Equal pay for equal work is one of the European Union's founding principles, enshrined in Article 157 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU). However, the implementation and enforcement of this principle remain a challenge. Owing to a lack of pay transparency, pay discrimination often goes undetected, and victims face difficulties in making claims for redress. On 4 March 2021, the European Commission adopted a legislative proposal on binding pay transparency measures. The proposed directive to strengthen the application of the principle of equal pay for equal work, or work of equal value between men and women through pay transparency and enforcement mechanisms, focuses on measures to ensure pay transparency and better access to justice for victims of pay discrimination. The Council agreed its approach on the proposal on 6 December 2021. On 5 April 2022, Parliament voted to confirm the joint committee's negotiating mandate on the proposal with a view to initiating informal trilogue negotiations with the Council. Interinstitutional negotiations started on 30 June. On 15 December 2022, after five trilogue meetings, an agreement on the proposal was reached. The Parliament adopted the text in plenary on 30 March 2023, and on 24 April, the Council also did so. The Directive was published in the Official Journal on 17 May 2023, and has to be transposed into national law by the Member States by 7 June 2026. Fourth edition. The 'EU Legislation in Progress' briefings are updated at key stages throughout the legislative procedure.

Briefing [DE](#), [EN](#), [FR](#)

Multimedia [Equal pay for equal work between men and women: Pay transparency and enforcement mechanisms](#)

[Recreational use of cannabis: Laws and policies in selected EU Member States](#)

Publication type Briefing

Date 20-06-2023

Author BAKOWSKI Piotr | DE GROOT DAVID ARMAND JACQUES GERA | DEL MONTE Micaela | KERN Verena | KOTANIDIS Silvia | LECERF Marie | LECLERC GABIJA | LUYTEN KATRIEN | ODINK Ingeborg | ORAV Anita | PAPE Marketa | PRPIC Martina | SHREEVES Rosamund

Policy area Area of Freedom, Security and Justice

Keyword AGRI-FOODSTUFFS | area of freedom, security and justice | drug addiction | European construction | EUROPEAN UNION | health | health policy | hemp | INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS | narcotic | plant product | social affairs | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | UN International Drug Control Programme | United Nations | UNO

Summary Cannabis is by far the most commonly used illicit drug (referred to as drug in this briefing) in the European Union (EU), where its distribution, cultivation, possession and use (consumption) are largely prohibited. The prohibition of drug-related activities other than those performed for medical or scientific purposes is the defining feature of the international drug control system. Set up by the United Nations (UN), this system is composed of three complementary conventions, to which all EU Member States are parties. Various countries around the world have made use of the flexibility of the UN system, not applying criminal penalties in some cases (e.g. for possession of small amounts of drugs for personal use) or replacing them with administrative ones. The UN bodies monitoring compliance with the conventions seem to have come to accept these policy choices. However, they remain resistant to the still rare yet increasingly common practice of legalising the recreational use of cannabis, which may entail regulating drug distribution and sale in a manner akin to that for alcohol and tobacco. In the EU, drug policy has remained primarily the Member States' preserve. The EU has fostered the Member States' cooperation on law enforcement and health-related issues, while at the same time respecting their diverse philosophies on how to address recreational drug use. National approaches range from very restrictive policies that prioritise criminal law responses, to more liberal ones that focus primarily on reducing the health and social harms resulting from drug use. In 2021, Malta became the first Member State to legalise recreational cannabis, and since then several others have taken steps that could potentially lead to similar drug policy reforms. The following EPRS policy analysts contributed to the country analyses in this briefing: Antonio Albaladejo Roman (Spain), David De Groot (Germany), Micaela Del Monte (Luxembourg), Verena Kern (Austria), Silvia Kotanidis (Italy), Marie Lecerf (France), Gabija Leclerc (Lithuania), Katrien Luyten (Belgium), Ingeborg Odink (the Netherlands), Anita Orav (Estonia), Marketa Pape (Czechia), Martina Prpic (Croatia) and Rosamund Shreeves (Malta).

Briefing [EN](#)

[Political participation of people with disabilities in the EU](#)

Publication type Briefing

Date 17-05-2023

Author LECERF Marie

Keyword EU growth strategy | European construction | EUROPEAN UNION

Summary The opportunity to be involved in political life is at the heart of what it means to live in a democracy, whether by standing for elected office, joining a political party, or following political news in the media. People with disabilities are active citizens who are keen to participate given the right opportunities. However, legal, administrative, institutional and accessibility barriers can still prevent them from taking part in elections. In order to nurture democratic societies in which all members can participate fully, the United Nations and the European Union are striving for full inclusion of people with disabilities. Through its Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the UN promotes the political participation of people with disabilities. Through its Charter of Fundamental Rights, the EU guarantees each and every citizen the right to vote and stand as a candidate in elections to the European Parliament and the right to vote and stand as a candidate in municipal elections. The European Commission's 2021 2030 strategy for the rights of persons with disabilities commits the EU and its Member States to making those rights a reality. With the 2024 European elections on the horizon, the European Parliament is renewing its commitment to ensuring the equal participation of people with disabilities in this major European political event.

Briefing [EN](#)

[Equal pay for equal work between men and women](#)

Publication type At a Glance

Date 27-03-2023

Author LECERF Marie

Policy area Gender Issues, Equality and Diversity

Keyword EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | equal pay | gender equality | labour law | labour law and labour relations | LAW | organisation of work and working conditions | personnel management and staff remuneration | remuneration of work | rights and freedoms | wage determination | working conditions

Summary Equal pay for equal work is one of the European Union's founding principles. However, the implementation and enforcement of this principle remain a challenge. On 4 March 2021, the European Commission proposed a directive to strengthen the application of the principle of equal pay for equal work between men and women, through pay transparency and enforcement mechanisms. Parliament's negotiators reached an agreement with the Council on the proposal on 15 December 2022, and that text is now due to be put to the vote during Parliament's March II plenary session.

At a Glance [DE](#), [EN](#), [ES](#), [FR](#), [IT](#), [PL](#)

[Maternity and paternity leave in the EU](#)

Publication type At a Glance

Date 28-02-2023

Author KERN Verena | LECERF Marie

Policy area Employment | Gender Issues, Equality and Diversity | Social Policy

Keyword birth policy | demography and population | economic analysis | ECONOMICS | EU programme | EU statistics | European construction | EUROPEAN UNION | family | maternity benefit | maternity leave | motherhood | parental leave | paternity leave | social protection | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary This infographic aims to present the current maternity and paternity leave situation in EU Member States. Most EU countries also grant an additional period of parental leave, but parental leave is not covered in this infographic.

[At a Glance](#) [EN](#)

[Towards equal rights for persons with disabilities](#)

Publication type At a Glance

Date 07-12-2022

Author LECERF Marie

Policy area Gender Issues, Equality and Diversity

Keyword discrimination based on disability | equal treatment | independence of the disabled | integration of the disabled | international affairs | INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS | LAW | rights and freedoms | social affairs | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | UN convention

Summary In a report adopted on 17 November 2022, the European Parliament's Committee on Civil Liberties takes stock of progress towards implementing the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in the European Union (EU). The text will be debated and put to the vote during Parliament's December plenary session.

[At a Glance](#) [DE](#), [EN](#), [ES](#), [FR](#), [IT](#), [PL](#)

[Russia's war on Ukraine: People with disabilities](#)

Publication type At a Glance

Date 18-11-2022

Author DEL MONTE Micaela | LECERF Marie

Policy area Human Rights

Keyword aid to refugees | care of the disabled | civil defence | cooperation policy | disabled person | economic geography | Europe | GEOGRAPHY | INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS | international security | political geography | POLITICS | politics and public safety | Russia | Russo-Ukrainian issue | social affairs | social integration | social protection | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | Ukraine

Summary More than 8 months into Russia's war on Ukraine, there is no end in sight. The invasion has forced millions of people to flee Ukraine or seek refuge in other parts of the country, causing a European humanitarian crisis of enormous proportions. The chaos created by the conflict has increased the risk of violence and exploitation exponentially, especially for the most vulnerable people, such as those with disabilities. Estimates show that around 2.7 million people with disabilities in Ukraine face a disproportionate risk of violence or death, and lack access to medical support; this number will most likely increase as the conflict goes on. Since the war began, the European Parliament has been drawing attention to the needs of people with disabilities.

[At a Glance](#) [EN](#)

[Gender balance on corporate boards](#)

Publication type At a Glance

Date 17-11-2022

Author LECERF Marie

Policy area Gender Issues, Equality and Diversity

Keyword board of directors | BUSINESS AND COMPETITION | business classification | business organisation | employment | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | equal treatment | EUROPEAN UNION | European Union law | female work | gender equality | LAW | participation of women | private sector | proposal (EU) | rights and freedoms | sexual discrimination | social affairs | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary In 2012, the European Commission tabled a directive to improve gender balance on company boards. It set a target whereby women should make up 40 % of non-executive director positions and 33 % of all directors' positions for listed companies. After being blocked in the Council for a decade, the Parliament and Council have now reached agreement. The Parliament is expected to vote on this during its November II plenary session.

[At a Glance](#) [DE](#), [EN](#), [ES](#), [FR](#), [IT](#), [PL](#)

[EU contribution to the fight against child poverty](#)

Publication type At a Glance

Date 17-10-2022

Author LECERF Marie

Policy area Gender Issues, Equality and Diversity

Keyword area of freedom, security and justice | child | cooperation policy | demography and population | ECONOMICS | EU finance | European construction | EUROPEAN UNION | fund (EU) | humanitarian aid | INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS | INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS | LAW | marginalisation | national accounts | poverty | rights and freedoms | social affairs | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | social rights | Unicef | United Nations

Summary At more than one in five, the number of children at risk of poverty in the European Union (EU) remains high. This year's 30th anniversary of the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty presents an opportunity to take stock of what the EU is doing to fight child poverty. Even though legal competence for child policy remains primarily with the Member States, the fight against child poverty is a major EU priority. The European Pillar of Social Rights now reflects the EU's increasing willingness to tackle child poverty, while the use of European funds is key to success. The European Parliament has always been at the forefront of this fight.

[At a Glance](#) [EN](#)

[International Equal Pay Day](#)

Publication type At a Glance

Date 14-09-2022

Author LECERF Marie

Policy area Gender Issues, Equality and Diversity

Keyword economic discrimination | employment | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | equal pay | equal treatment | EU employment policy | gender equality | LAW | personnel management and staff remuneration | POLITICS | politics and public safety | position of women | public awareness campaign | remuneration of work | rights and freedoms | sexual discrimination | social affairs | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary As things stand, the gender pay gap persists globally and in the European Union, and progress in reducing it is slow. To accelerate the realisation of the principle of 'equal pay for work of equal value', the United Nations marked the first International Day for Equal Pay on 18 September 2020. This year, for its third edition, the debate will focus on pay transparency measures. This is an update of an 'at a glance' note from September 2021.

[At a Glance](#) [EN](#)

[Better regulation: Joining forces to make better laws](#)

Publication type At a Glance

Date 29-06-2022

Author LECERF Marie

Policy area EU Democracy, Institutional and Parliamentary Law

Keyword administrative transparency | drafting of EU law | EU institutions and European civil service | EU policy | EU strategy | European construction | EUROPEAN UNION | European Union law | executive power and public service | legislative procedure | parliamentary proceedings | POLITICS | regulatory policy | transparency in decision-making

Summary The purpose of better regulation is to make European Union laws and policies simpler, more targeted and easier to comply with. Since the early 2000s, better lawmaking has been high on the European agenda, and in April 2021 the European Commission published a new communication on better lawmaking. Parliament will debate and vote on the JURI committee's report on this communication during the July plenary session.

[At a Glance](#) [DE](#), [EN](#), [ES](#), [FR](#), [IT](#), [PL](#)

[Russia's war on Ukraine: The situation of Roma people fleeing Ukraine](#)

Publication type At a Glance

Date 13-05-2022

Author LECERF Marie

Policy area Gender Issues, Equality and Diversity

Keyword aid to refugees | cooperation policy | economic geography | employment | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | ethnic discrimination | Europe | GEOGRAPHY | international law | INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS | international security | LAW | military intervention | political geography | racial discrimination | refugee | residence permit | rights and freedoms | Roma | Russia | social framework | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | Ukraine | work permit

Summary Russia's invasion of Ukraine has forced millions of people, amongst whom Ukrainian Roma, to seek shelter in neighbouring countries. Roma fleeing Ukraine often face discrimination, segregation, deprivation and prejudice.

[At a Glance](#) [EN](#), [FR](#)

[Maternity and paternity leave in the EU](#)

Publication type At a Glance

Date 01-03-2022

Author JURVISTE Ulla | LECERF Marie

Policy area Employment | Gender Issues, Equality and Diversity | Social Policy

Keyword economic analysis | economic geography | ECONOMICS | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | EU Member State | EU statistics | European social policy | family | family policy | GEOGRAPHY | maternity benefit | maternity leave | motherhood | organisation of work and working conditions | paternity leave | social affairs | social framework | social protection | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | social statistics | work-life balance

Summary This infographic aims to present the current maternity and paternity leave situation in EU Member States. Most EU countries also grant an additional period of parental leave, but parental leave is not covered in this infographic.

[At a Glance](#) [EN](#)

[The EU Blue Card Directive](#)

Publication type At a Glance

Date 08-09-2021

Author LECERF Marie

Policy area Area of Freedom, Security and Justice

Keyword cooperation policy | directive (EU) | employment | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | EU migration policy | EUROPEAN UNION | European Union law | foreign national | international law | INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS | labour market | LAW | migrant worker | migration | professional qualifications | proposal (EU) | recognition of vocational training qualifications | residence permit | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | third country | work permit

Summary Attracting highly qualified immigrants to Europe has been one of the EU's key priorities for several years. However, up until now the EU has not been as successful as other OECD countries. This demand for workers is expected to increase due to the growing shortage of certain skills and the aging of the EU's population. A new directive, proposed in 2016, should replace the 2009 Blue Card Directive, increasing the attractiveness of the EU's highly skilled migration scheme. During its September plenary session, Parliament is due to vote at first reading on the final text resulting from interinstitutional negotiations.

[At a Glance](#) [DE](#), [EN](#), [ES](#), [FR](#), [IT](#), [PL](#)

[Revision of the EU Blue Card Directive](#)

Publication type Briefing

Date 15-07-2021

Author LECERF Marie

Policy area Area of Freedom, Security and Justice

Keyword brain drain | cooperation policy | economic analysis | ECONOMICS | employment | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | EU migration policy | foreign national | impact study | internal border of the EU | international affairs | international law | international relations | INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS | labour law | labour law and labour relations | labour market | labour mobility | LAW | migrant worker | migration | occupational migration | parliamentary proceedings | parliamentary vote | POLITICS | skilled worker | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | third country | work permit

Summary Attracting highly qualified immigrants to Europe has been one of the EU's key priorities for several years. However, up until now the EU has not been as successful as other OECD countries. This demand for workers is expected to increase due to the increasing shortage of certain skills and the aging of the EU's population. The proposed directive, which would replace the 2009 Blue Card Directive, increases the attractiveness of the EU highly skilled migration scheme by expanding its scope, lowering criteria for admission or expanding the rights of beneficiaries. On 15 June 2017, the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (LIBE) adopted its report, and voted to open interinstitutional negotiations. After the Council agreed its mandate, trilogue meetings started in September 2017, but little progress was made before the end of the 2014-2019 parliamentary term. In October 2019, Parliament decided to resume work on the file in the context of 'unfinished business' to be carried over to the new legislature. The European Commission's 'New Pact on Migration and Asylum', presented on 23 September 2020, stressed the need to finalise the negotiations. On 17 May 2021, the Parliament and the Portuguese Presidency of the EU Council finally reached an interim agreement on the revision of the directive. On 21 May, Member States' ambassadors, in the Committee of Permanent Representatives, endorsed the agreement. And on 3 June, the LIBE committee also endorsed the agreement reached with the Council. Parliament is expected to vote on adopting the agreed text during the September 2021 plenary session. Third edition of a briefing originally drafted by Martina Prpic. The 'EU Legislation in Progress' briefings are updated at key stages throughout the legislative procedure.

[Briefing](#) [EN](#)

The impact of the coronavirus crisis on Roma and Travellers

Publication type At a Glance

Date 23-03-2021

Author LECERF Marie

Policy area Coronavirus | Gender Issues, Equality and Diversity

Keyword aid to disadvantaged groups | coronavirus disease | epidemic | EU finance | EU strategy | European construction | EUROPEAN UNION | health | migration | nomadism | public health | Roma | social affairs | social framework | social impact | social integration | social protection | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | support mechanism

Summary The EU's Roma and Traveller communities are among those most at risk of contracting Covid-19. This only adds to the multiple difficulties they face as regards employment, education, housing and health, compounded by discrimination and anti-Gypsyism. To tackle this situation, the European Commission has introduced targeted measures and provided financial support. The European Parliament has repeatedly expressed its deep concern about the conditions of the Roma and people of other backgrounds during the ongoing pandemic.

At a Glance [EN](#)

The coronavirus crisis: An emerging gender divide?

Publication type At a Glance

Date 02-03-2021

Author LECERF Marie | SABBATI Giulio

Policy area Coronavirus | Gender Issues, Equality and Diversity

Keyword coronavirus disease | economic analysis | ECONOMICS | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | employment statistics | epidemic | equal pay | EU statistics | female worker | gender equality | health | labour market | LAW | national accounts | organisation of work and working conditions | personnel management and staff remuneration | rights and freedoms | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | standard of living | work-life balance

Summary The European Union remains severely hit by the coronavirus crisis, whose impact extends far beyond public health. The economic, social and psychological consequences of the pandemic are at the forefront of Member States' and EU institutions' concerns. Employment and working conditions have undergone major upheavals, raising the issue of a possible reversal of progress on gender equality. This infographic aims to shed light on the socioeconomic and psychological impacts of the pandemic on women, through the lens of the transformation of the labour market, work-life balance and well-being. It is based on Eurostat data and a study conducted by Eurofound on living and working in the times of Covid-19.

At a Glance [EN](#)

Multimedia [Covid-19 increases women's unpaid care work](#)

Fair minimum wages in the EU - Pre-legislative synthesis of national, regional and local positions on the European Commission's initiative

Publication type Briefing

Date 26-10-2020

Author LECERF Marie | RITTELMEYER Yann-Sven

Policy area Employment | Social Policy

Keyword approximation of laws | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | EUROPEAN UNION | European Union law | minimum pay | organisation of work and working conditions | personnel management and staff remuneration | working conditions

Summary This briefing forms part of an EPRS series offering syntheses of the pre-legislative state of play and consultation on key European Commission priorities during the current five-year term. It summarises the state of affairs in the relevant policy field, examines how existing policy is working on the ground, and, where possible, identifies best practice and ideas for the future on the part of governmental organisations at all levels of European system of multilevel governance. Based on EPRS analysis, partner organisations at European, national, regional and local levels point to the following main considerations that they consider should shape discussion of the forthcoming initiative on fair minimum wages for workers in the EU: • There are fears regarding the implications of the EU initiative for the respective national systems, with the various stakeholders suggesting a cautious approach as part of what could prove to be a long-term discussion. A complex differentiated approach with several safeguards, adapted to the respective systems in place, would appear to be key to avoiding an initiative with only minimal ambitions. • A broad consensus is observed regarding the need to reinforce the social partners; strengthening social dialogue and promoting collective bargaining should be used as an opportunity to explore ambitious measures in this area. • The unresolved debate on the effects of higher minimum wages on the economy and employment situation underlines the need for detailed and regular analysis, including by means of greater use of impact assessment tools. This would be valuable in order to prevent negative consequences and demonstrate the added value of EU action. • Some specific (complementary) instruments deserve to be considered, such as the country-specific recommendations of the European Semester and public procurement procedures.

Briefing [EN](#)

[Minimum wage in the EU](#)

Publication type Briefing

Date 19-10-2020

Author LECERF Marie

Policy area Coronavirus | Social Policy

Keyword EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | European social policy | minimum pay | personnel management and staff remuneration | social affairs | social integration | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary In 2020, most European Union (EU) Member States have a statutory minimum wage (21 of 27), while six others have wage levels determined through collective bargaining. Expressed in euros, monthly minimum wages vary widely across the EU ranging from €312 in Bulgaria to €2 142 in Luxembourg (July 2020). The disparities are significantly smaller when price level differences are eliminated. Expressed in purchasing power standard, the minimum wage ranges from PPS 547 in Latvia to PPS 1 634 in Luxembourg. The question of setting a minimum wage is one of the most analysed and debated topics in economics. Over recent years and in the context of the economic and social crisis engendered by the Covid 19 outbreak, the creation of a European minimum wage is increasingly considered as a useful instrument to ensure fair wages and social inclusion. In November 2017, the EU institutions jointly proclaimed the European Pillar of Social Rights, setting out the European Union's commitment to fair wages for workers. Since then, the European Commission has shown its willingness to address this issue. In particular, Commission President Ursula von der Leyen stated in her political guidelines that she will propose a legal instrument to ensure that every worker in the Union has a fair minimum wage. Such minimum wages should be set according to national traditions, through collective agreements or legal provisions. On 14 January 2020, the Commission launched the first phase of consultation with social partners on fair minimum wages for workers in the EU, to gather social partners' views on the possible direction of EU action. Based on the replies received, the Commission concluded that there is a need for EU action. The second phase of consultation was launched on 3 June 2020; with a deadline of 4 September 2020 for social partners to provide their opinion. A Commission proposal is expected by the end of 2020. The European Trade Union Confederation welcomed the European Commission's initiative and called for the Commission to propose a directive. Conversely, employers' organisations believe wage-setting should be left to social partners at national level. In their view, if the Commission wished to act, only an EU Council recommendation would be acceptable. The European Parliament has often debated the issue of low income and minimum income over the last decade, advocating a more inclusive economy.

[Briefing EN](#)

Multimedia [Minimum wage in the EU](#)

[Impact of coronavirus on EU aid to the most deprived](#)

Publication type Briefing

Date 04-06-2020

Author LECERF Marie

Policy area Coronavirus | Social Policy

Keyword aid to disadvantaged groups | coronavirus disease | economic policy | ECONOMICS | epidemic | EU aid | health | marginalisation | national accounts | poverty | social affairs | social framework | social impact | social protection | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | socially disadvantaged class

Summary Around 24 million people in the EU, or 5.6 % of the population, are 'severely materially deprived'. Fighting poverty and social exclusion is therefore a key priority, and to this end the EU supplements its Member States' aid to those most in need through the Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived (FEAD), which has a budget of €3.8 billion. Partner organisations selected by the Member States manage this support, providing food (e.g. distribution of food packages and meals) and material assistance (e.g. clothes), or activities to improve inclusion (e.g. better access to support and social services) to those in need. In parallel, the European Social Fund (ESF) remains the broader funding instrument fighting poverty and social exclusion. The coronavirus crisis poses specific risks for the most deprived and unparalleled challenges for the activities supported by the FEAD and the ESF. To safeguard the most vulnerable, and aid workers and volunteers, against the coronavirus disease, emergency measures have been taken to provide them with protective equipment. Changes, launched in April 2020, have sought to adapt the FEAD to the challenging situation. For instance, electronic vouchers have been introduced to deliver food aid and basic material assistance, to reduce the risk of contamination during delivery. Furthermore, FEAD money has been made available for buying protective equipment for those delivering the aid. Yet again, partner organisations and other players involved in the implementation of the FEAD have been enabled to quickly address the additional needs of the most deprived arising from the crisis. During the crisis, the fund will be 100 % EU-financed, including the 15 % normally paid by the Member States. Moreover, to face the acute labour crisis and its social consequences on the most deprived, the EU has taken initiatives to address immediate needs and mitigate negative impacts on employment and social policy, including measures to support the most vulnerable or deprived groups. Since the onset of the pandemic, the European Parliament has been at the forefront of initiatives to protect the most deprived.

[Briefing EN](#)

Multimedia [Impact of coronavirus on EU aid to the most deprived](#)

[Employment and disability in the European Union](#)

Publication type Briefing

Date 27-05-2020

Author LECERF Marie

Policy area Employment | Social Policy

Keyword discrimination based on disability | employment | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | EU employment policy | integration of the disabled | labour market | labour market | LAW | rights and freedoms | social affairs | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary Approximately one in six people in the European Union (EU) aged 15 and over lives with some kind of disability. Even if there has been an overall improvement in the employment situation of persons with disabilities in the EU (given the increase in employment rates), they still remain among the most disadvantaged groups as regards employment. This phenomenon considerably affects the EU's social integration ability and economic growth. Alongside and in support of Member States' policies, the EU has introduced a series of legal provisions, initiatives, actions and strategies to improve the employment situation of disabled people. In 2010, the EU signed the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), which is a legally binding international treaty. According to the CRPD, the right to work and employment is a fundamental right (Article 27). The main instrument supporting the CRPD's implementation in the EU is the European disability strategy 2010-2020. Its overall aim is to empower people with disabilities so that they can enjoy their full rights, participate in society and have equal access to employment as others. Since 2017, the European Pillar of Social Rights has provided further impetus to the active social inclusion of people with disabilities. In relation to the European disability strategy 2010-2020, the European Pillar of Social Rights and the European Semester (established in 2010 as an annual cycle for economic, social and fiscal policy coordination), the EU supports a number of initiatives designed to assist disabled people as regards employment. These include: non-discrimination, workplace adaptations, public employment services, accessibility, financial incentives and EU funding. Since the early 1980s, the European Parliament has given priority to combating all forms of discrimination against disabled people, in particular, as regards employment. Academics and stakeholders share the view that tackling any kind of discrimination against, and fostering the active inclusion of, people with disabilities in the labour market are equally important for the EU's economy and society.

[Briefing](#) [EN](#)

[EU contribution to the fight against child poverty](#)

Publication type At a Glance

Date 11-11-2019

Author LECERF Marie

Policy area Social Policy

Keyword aid to disadvantaged groups | child protection | economic policy | ECONOMICS | EU aid | national accounts | poverty | social affairs | social protection | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary The number of children at risk of poverty – almost one in four – remains high in the European Union. As 2019 marks the 30th anniversary of the adoption of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, the opportunity arises to take stock of what the European Union is doing to fight child poverty. Even though legal competence for child policy remains primarily with the Member States, the fight against child poverty is a major priority of the European Union (EU). The Europe 2020 Strategy and the European Pillar of Social Rights reflect the EU's increasing willingness to tackle child poverty, while the use of European funds is key to success. The European Parliament has always been at the forefront of this fight, most recently with the promotion of a Child Guarantee Scheme.

[At a Glance](#) [EN](#)

[Hearings of the Commissioners-designate: Nicolas Schmit – Jobs and Social Rights](#)

Publication type Briefing

Date 26-09-2019

Author LECERF Marie

Policy area Employment | Social Policy

Keyword appointment of members | employment | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | EU institutions and European civil service | European Commissioner | EUROPEAN UNION | job security | LAW | parliamentary proceedings | POLITICS | public hearing | rights and freedoms | social rights

Summary This briefing is one in a set looking at the Commissioners-designate and their portfolios as put forward by Commission President-elect Ursula von der Leyen. Each candidate faces a three-hour public hearing, organised by one or more parliamentary committees. After that process, those committees will judge the candidates' suitability for the role based on 'their general competence, European commitment and personal independence', as well as their 'knowledge of their prospective portfolio and their communication skills'. At the end of the hearings process, Parliament votes on the proposed Commission as a bloc, and under the Treaties may only reject the entire College of Commissioners, rather than individual candidates. The Briefing provides an overview of key issues in the portfolio areas, as well as Parliament's activity in the last term in that field. It also includes a brief introduction to the candidate.

[Briefing](#) [EN](#)

European Accessibility Act

Publication type Briefing

Date 15-07-2019

Author LECERF Marie

Policy area Adoption of Legislation by EP and Council | Gender Issues, Equality and Diversity | Internal Market and Customs Union | Social Policy

Keyword accounting | adoption of a law by vote | BUSINESS AND COMPETITION | business classification | cost-benefit analysis | demography and population | disabled person | economic analysis | ECONOMICS | EU strategy | European construction | EUROPEAN UNION | facilities for the disabled | impact study | integration of the disabled | parliamentary proceedings | POLITICS | population ageing | small and medium-sized enterprises | social affairs | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | TRANSPORT | transport infrastructure | transport policy

Summary To ensure the full participation of people with disabilities in society, and to reduce the fragmentation of legislation governing access to products and services, the European Commission has adopted a proposal for a directive – often referred to as the European Accessibility Act. This proposal, published on 2 December 2015, provides for a common EU definition of, and implementation framework for, accessibility requirements for certain products and services. It also aims to use the same accessibility requirements to provide a clear definition of the existing general accessibility obligation laid down in European law. Many stakeholders welcomed the European Union's wish to honour its responsibilities under the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, but they were divided on the means to reach this objective. In the European Parliament, the Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection (IMCO) adopted its report on 25 April 2017, which was discussed in plenary on 15 September. At the same time, Parliament gave a mandate to start negotiations with the Council. On 7 December 2017, the Council agreed on a position (general approach). On 8 November 2018, the EP and the Council came to a provisional agreement. The agreed text was adopted by the EP on 13 March 2019, then by the Council on 27 March, and published in the Official Journal on 7 June 2019. Third edition. The 'EU Legislation in Progress' briefings are updated at key stages throughout the legislative procedure.

Briefing [EN](#)

EU policies – Delivering for citizens: The fight against unemployment

Publication type Briefing

Date 28-06-2019

Author LECERF Marie

Policy area Employment

Keyword apprenticeship | demography and population | economic analysis | economic geography | ECONOMICS | employment | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | EU finance | EU initiative | EU institutions and European civil service | EU Member State | EU statistics | EU strategy | European construction | European Globalisation Adjustment Fund | European Investment Fund | European Social Fund | EUROPEAN UNION | fight against unemployment | GEOGRAPHY | labour market | labour mobility | social protection | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | social security legislation | unemployment | young person

Summary By promoting a high level of employment, the European Union (EU) has been involved in the fight against unemployment since as long ago as the early 1950s. The issue was brought to the top of the European agenda with the onset of the 2008 economic and financial crisis, and the consequent rise in unemployment rates in all European Union (EU) Member States. In its Europe 2020 strategy, the European Commission set a target to get 75 % of 20 to 64 year-olds into employment by 2020. EU labour market conditions have significantly improved in recent years, and most labour market indicators have strengthened steadily. Since mid-2013, the unemployment rate has continued to decline, and the EU is back to its pre-crisis level (6.5 % in February 2019). Despite the recovery in economic growth and its positive impact on the labour market, the EU still has to face unemployment challenges, particularly concerning differences between Member States, youth unemployment and long-term unemployment. Since 2014, efforts have been made in a number of areas, including to help young people enter the labour market, to combat long-term unemployment, upgrade skills, and facilitate workers' mobility in the European Union. The improvement in labour market indicators has been reflected in citizens' improved evaluation of the EU's involvement in the fight against unemployment, but there is still a very high demand for even more EU intervention in this policy area (76 % of EU citizens). In the future, new or updated legislation relating to employment could modernise work to help in adjustment to a digital world, support sustainable transitions from unemployment into employment and between jobs, increase labour mobility and create closer coordination between economic and social policies. This is an update of an earlier briefing issued in advance of the 2019 European elections.

Briefing [DE](#), [EN](#), [FR](#)

Multimedia [EU policies – Delivering for citizens: The fight against unemployment](#)

Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived (FEAD)

Publication type Briefing

Date 10-04-2019

Author LECERF Marie

Policy area Budget | Regional Development | Social Policy

Keyword aid to disadvantaged groups | economic analysis | economic and social cohesion | economic policy | ECONOMICS | EU aid | EU budget | EU expenditure | EU finance | European construction | EUROPEAN UNION | fund (EU) | impact study | LAW | national accounts | poverty | rights and freedoms | social affairs | social framework | social integration | social protection | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | social rights | socially disadvantaged class

Summary Created in 2014, the €3.8 billion Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived (FEAD) supplements EU Member States' own aid. Member States can choose between food and/or other basic material assistance or social inclusion activities. Partner organisations selected by the Member States manage FEAD support. The FEAD complements other EU instruments that seek to promote social cohesion, the European Social Fund in particular.

Briefing [EN](#)

[European Social Fund Plus \(ESF+\) 2021-2027](#)

Publication type **Briefing**

Date **29-03-2019**

Author **LECERF Marie**

Policy area **Adoption of Legislation by EP and Council | Social Policy**

Keyword **access to education | ECONOMICS | education | EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS | eligibility criteria | employment | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | EU finance | European Semester | European Social Fund | European social policy | EUROPEAN UNION | FINANCE | health | innovation | job access | labour market | monetary economics | national accounts | organisation of health care | poverty | PRODUCTION, TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH | research and intellectual property | social affairs | social integration | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | vocational training**

Summary In preparation for the upcoming Multiannual Financial Framework for 2021-2027, the European Commission published a proposal for a regulation on the European Social Fund Plus (ESF+) on 30 May 2018. In the same spirit as the current European Social Fund 2014-2020, the ESF+ will provide the main EU financial instrument for improving workers' mobility and employment opportunities and strengthening social cohesion, improving social fairness and increasing competitiveness across Europe for the 2021-2027 period. With a provisional budget of €101.2 billion (current prices), the ESF+ should merge the existing European Social Fund (ESF), the Youth Employment Initiative (YEI), and the Fund for European Aid to the most Deprived (FEAD), the Employment and Social Innovation Programme (EaSI) and the EU Health Programme. The new fund will concentrate its investment in three main areas: education, employment and social inclusion. At the European Parliament, the file was assigned to the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (EMPL), which adopted its report on 3 December, 2018. On 16 January 2019, the committee's amendments to increase the funding and make youth and children the main beneficiaries were approved by plenary. No trilogue meetings have taken place, and so Parliament is now due to conclude the first reading during the April I plenary session. Third edition. The 'EU Legislation in Progress' briefings are updated at key stages throughout the legislative procedure.

[Briefing](#) [EN](#)

[European Accessibility Act](#)

Publication type **At a Glance**

Date **06-03-2019**

Author **LECERF Marie**

Policy area **Adoption of Legislation by EP and Council | Gender Issues, Equality and Diversity | Internal Market and Customs Union | Social Policy**

Summary To ensure the full participation of people with disabilities in society, and to reduce the fragmentation of legislation governing their access to products and services, the European Commission adopted a proposal for a new directive – often referred to as the European Accessibility Act. This would provide a common EU definition of, and implementation framework for, accessibility requirements for certain products and services in the internal market. Following the completion of trilogue negotiations, which resulted in a provisional agreement in December 2018, the European Parliament is expected to vote on the proposal in plenary during March.

[At a Glance](#) [DE](#), [EN](#), [ES](#), [FR](#), [IT](#), [PL](#)

[EYE event - Youth unemployment: The race to zero](#)

Publication type **At a Glance**

Date **16-05-2018**

Author **LECERF Marie**

Policy area **Employment**

Keyword **economic analysis | ECONOMICS | employment | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | EU finance | EU initiative | EU institutions and European civil service | EU statistics | European construction | European Social Fund | EUROPEAN UNION | Eurostat | labour market | labour mobility | long-term unemployment | youth employment | youth unemployment**

Summary Young people in Europe are eager to move up, to work and to participate in society, but more than 3.6 million of them are in a precarious position. How can we reduce youth unemployment to close to zero within the coming years? Has Europe taken decisive action for a real crackdown?

[At a Glance](#) [EN](#)

[Poverty, gender and life cycle: Portraits of poverty in the European Union](#)

Publication type In-Depth Analysis

Date 30-11-2017

Author LECERF Marie

Policy area Social Policy

Keyword child protection | demography and population | economic geography | ECONOMICS | elderly person | employment | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | EU Member State | European social policy | family | female worker | GEOGRAPHY | labour market | large family | marginalisation | national accounts | one-parent family | position of women | poverty | social affairs | social analysis | social framework | social protection | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | social security | social situation | young person | youth unemployment

Summary Nearly a quarter of the population in the European Union (23.8 %) were at risk of poverty or social exclusion in 2015. Living conditions, the degree of insecurity and the routes into and out of poverty vary according to age and gender, as well as varying over the course of a lifetime. Children are the most affected population in Europe today, while young people aged between 18 and 24 now represent 10% of those at risk of poverty or social exclusion in the EU. There is little difference between the sexes at this age, but it is a key difference among older people. The mid-life period is characterised by substantial variations based on gender, family circumstances and/or professional status. Women, single-parent families, large families or low-income workers are, at this point in their lives, more at risk of poverty or social exclusion. Lastly, older people are now simultaneously the least affected by poverty on average, and also among the most vulnerable, in the case of women.

In-Depth Analysis [DE](#), [EN](#), [FR](#)

[Les travailleurs pauvres au sein de l'Union européenne](#)

Publication type Briefing

Date 30-11-2017

Author LECERF Marie

Policy area Employment | Social Policy

Summary Si les personnes au chômage sont particulièrement exposées au risque de pauvreté, le travail ne constitue pas nécessairement une barrière contre la pauvreté. En 2015, 9,5 % des travailleurs pouvaient être qualifiés de pauvres. Le « risque de pauvreté au travail » varie en fonction non seulement des caractéristiques professionnelles mais aussi des spécificités personnelles et familiales des individus. En dépit d'une stabilisation globale du taux de pauvreté au travail depuis 2014, les niveaux de pauvreté au travail et les évolutions sont très différents selon les États membres, reflétant les caractéristiques de leur marché du travail et de leurs politiques sociales. Compte tenu de la nature multidimensionnelle du phénomène de pauvreté au travail, combinant situation professionnelle et familiale, les États membres ont rarement mis en place une seule et unique politique. La lutte contre la pauvreté au travail fait partie de l'objectif global de la Stratégie Europe 2020. Suivant cette ligne, la recommandation de la Commission européenne sur le socle européen des droits sociaux d'avril 2017 rappelle la nécessité de mettre en place des politiques de lutte contre la pauvreté au travail, tout comme le Conseil de l'Union européenne en octobre 2017. Le Parlement a adopté, à de nombreuses reprises, des résolutions en ce sens.

Briefing [FR](#)

[European Accessibility Act](#)

Publication type At a Glance

Date 05-09-2017

Author LECERF Marie

Policy area Gender Issues, Equality and Diversity | Internal Market and Customs Union | Social Policy

Keyword care of the disabled | carriage of passengers | communications | computer equipment | EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS | electronic banking | electronic commerce | EU strategy | European construction | EUROPEAN UNION | facilities for the disabled | FINANCE | financial institutions and credit | harmonisation of standards | information technology and data processing | international affairs | INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS | marketing | organisation of transport | product design | PRODUCTION, TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH | provision of services | single market | social affairs | social protection | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | technology and technical regulations | telephone | television | TRADE | TRANSPORT | UN convention

Summary To ensure the full participation of people with disabilities in society and to reduce the fragmentation of legislation governing their access to products and services, the Commission has adopted a proposal for a directive – often referred to as the European Accessibility Act. This would provide a common EU definition of, and implementation framework for, accessibility requirements for certain products and services in the internal market. Parliament is due to vote on the proposal in the September plenary.

At a Glance [DE](#), [EN](#), [ES](#), [FR](#), [IT](#), [PL](#)

[European disability policy: From defining disability to adopting a strategy](#)

Publication type In-Depth Analysis

Date 12-06-2017

Author LECERF Marie

Policy area Gender Issues, Equality and Diversity | Social Policy

Keyword demography and population | disabled person | discrimination based on disability | economic and social cohesion | economic geography | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | equal treatment | EU Member State | EU strategy | European construction | EUROPEAN UNION | GEOGRAPHY | INDUSTRY | labour market | LAW | miscellaneous industries | population ageing | rights and freedoms | service industry | social affairs | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | worker with disabilities

Summary More than 70 million people in the EU, close to one in six, have a disability. Many of them encounter difficulties performing simple daily tasks, pursuing studies and getting a job. That is why, alongside and in support of Member State policies, the EU has committed to combating all forms of discrimination to which disabled people are particularly vulnerable.

In-Depth Analysis [DE](#), [EN](#), [FR](#)

[NEETs: who are they? Being young and not in employment, education or training today](#)

Publication type Briefing

Date 23-03-2017

Author LECERF Marie

Policy area Education | Employment

Keyword dropout | education | EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS | employment | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | EU strategy | European construction | EUROPEAN UNION | fight against unemployment | integration into employment | job access | labour market | social affairs | social analysis | social framework | social integration | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | vocational training | youth policy | youth unemployment

Summary 'NEET' is an acronym used to refer to young people who are not in education, employment or training. The expression, which first emerged in the mid-90s in the United Kingdom, has been eagerly adopted by the media, policy makers and researchers due to its usefulness in describing the disproportionate effects of the economic crisis on the education, training and employability of young Europeans and, in the long term, on their social inclusion. In 2015 in the European Union, 12 % of 15- to 24-year-olds (6.6 million people) were not in a job, training or an internship. If we include young people up to the age of 29, the number of NEETs increases to almost 14 million, or 14.8 % of that age group. This social group is highly diverse, including short- and long-term unemployed people, young people in transition, young people with family responsibilities and people with disabilities or medical conditions. Statistically, young women are over-represented and the probability of being a NEET increases with age; that figure is also inversely proportional to the level of education reached and varies widely from one Member State to another. In response to the worsening of the NEET situation following the crisis, the European Commission drew up an EU Youth Strategy for the 2010-2018 period, whilst the European Parliament defended the NEET cause. The Youth Guarantee scheme created as a result is the European Union's key measure to provide support to NEETs.

Briefing [EN](#), [FR](#)

[How families have coped with the financial crisis](#)

Publication type Briefing

Date 14-10-2016

Author LECERF Marie

Policy area Employment | Social Policy

Keyword anti-crisis plan | child | cooperation policy | demography and population | economic analysis | economic conditions | economic conditions | economic geography | economic policy | economic reform | economic structure | ECONOMICS | employment | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | employment policy | EU Member State | EU statistics | family | family | financial aid | GEOGRAPHY | INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS | single parent | social analysis | social framework | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | structural adjustment

Summary Families in the European Union (EU) were hit hard by the financial and economic crisis of 2008, which, together with its after-effects, also triggered a social crisis. If measureable changes in family patterns and the breakdown of families may not be immediately observable and directly related to the downturn, the knock-on effects of the economic and financial crisis on families are far more apparent. Throughout the EU, single-parent families (16 % of all families) are exposed to the highest risk of poverty or social exclusion. Single-parent families are predominantly composed of single mothers, who face a higher poverty risk than single fathers. The adverse impact of the economic crisis on families placed children at greater risk of poverty or social exclusion than the rest of the population in 23 of the 28 EU Member States in 2014. In the same year, there were 27.4 million children under the age of 18 living at risk of poverty or social exclusion in the EU. Two drivers have played a growing part in the rise of families' difficulties in the EU since the onset of the recession: a cyclical one – the economic crisis and the strain it put on family-supportive policies – and a structural one – the reinforcement of the phenomenon of inherited poverty. Therefore, even if family policies fall within the responsibility of the Member States, the condition of families has become a policy concern for European institutions.

Briefing [EN](#)

Child poverty in the European Union: The crisis and its aftermath

Publication type Briefing

Date 11-07-2016

Author LECERF Marie

Policy area Social Policy

Keyword child | child protection | children's rights | demography and population | economic analysis | economic conditions | economic recession | ECONOMICS | employment | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | EU statistics | family | family policy | household | LAW | long-term unemployment | marginalisation | national accounts | poverty | rights and freedoms | social affairs | social integration | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary More than one in four children in the European Union (EU) is at risk of poverty or social exclusion. The poverty rate for children is higher than that for any other age group, though it varies widely across Member States. Furthermore, between 2008 and 2014, Europe has witnessed a rise in the number of severely deprived children. The five main factors affecting child poverty are: the composition of the household in which a child lives, the parents' labour market situation, the mother's own working status, the parents' educational level and their country of birth. Alongside these factors, two drivers have played a growing part in the rise of child poverty in the EU since the onset of the 'Great Recession': a cyclical one – the economic crisis – and a structural one – the phenomenon of inherited poverty. Therefore, child poverty has become a major policy concern for the European institutions. Six recent Council presidencies have commissioned studies and convened conferences on child poverty. In 2013, the European Commission adopted a Recommendation 'Investing in children – breaking the cycle of disadvantage' in connection with the creation of an evidence-based online platform. On 16 June 2016, the European Council adopted conclusions on an integrated approach for combating poverty and social exclusion. Similarly, combating child poverty and social exclusion has moved up the agenda of the two EU consultative committees and the European Parliament. Nevertheless, non-governmental organisations have highlighted some concerns that have not been fully addressed by the EU institutions.

Briefing [EN](#)

The impact of globalisation: Winners and losers in the EU and the USA

Publication type In-Depth Analysis

Date 04-07-2016

Author LECERF Marie

Policy area Economics and Monetary Issues | Social Policy

Keyword accounting | America | BUSINESS AND COMPETITION | cost-benefit analysis | economic analysis | economic geography | economic policy | economic structure | ECONOMICS | employment | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | European construction | European Globalisation Adjustment Fund | European Union | EUROPEAN UNION | FINANCE | financial market | financial stability | free movement of capital | GEOGRAPHY | globalisation | market economy | national accounts | political geography | redistribution of income | social framework | social inequality | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | statistics | United States

Summary Does globalisation level up living standards or increase inequality? Economists have long been debating the role free trade plays in creating winners and losers. By opening up markets, globalisation reduces the number of monopolies, while consumers benefit from the resulting increase in competition. But globalisation also leads to losses, or at least smaller net gains, for some and it can also increase economic inequality. Once a purely economic and social issue, the question of who wins and who loses in globalisation has become a topic for heated political debate in Europe and the USA.

In-Depth Analysis [DE](#), [EN](#), [FR](#)

EYE 2016 – Youth unemployment: Down to zero?

Publication type At a Glance

Date 28-04-2016

Author LECERF Marie

Policy area Employment

Keyword economic analysis | ECONOMICS | EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS | educational system | employment | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | EU employment policy | EU statistics | EURES | fight against unemployment | integration into employment | job creation | labour market | labour mobility | organisation of teaching | school-working life relations | vocational guidance | youth unemployment

Summary Young people in Europe are eager to move on, to work and to participate, but more than 4 million of them are in a precarious position. How can we reduce youth unemployment to close to zero within 10 years? Has Europe taken decisive action for a real crackdown? This note has been prepared for the European Youth Event, taking place in Strasbourg in May 2016. Please click here for the full publication in PDF format

At a Glance [EN](#)

Poverty in the European Union: The crisis and its aftermath

Publication type In-Depth Analysis

Date 16-03-2016

Author LECERF Marie

Policy area Social Policy

Keyword economic conditions | economic recession | ECONOMICS | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | EU finance | EU financing | EU growth strategy | EU situation | European construction | European social policy | EUROPEAN UNION | homelessness | labour market | marginalisation | national accounts | poverty | social affairs | social framework | social impact | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | working poor

Summary In 2010, as part of the Europe 2020 strategy, Member States agreed on a target to have at least 20 million fewer people in or at risk of poverty and social exclusion by 2020, thus reducing poverty from 116.4 million people to 96.4 million over the decade. Unfortunately, since the Strategy was adopted, the European Union has moved away from this target: there are now 6.7 million more people living in poverty or social exclusion across Europe compared to 2008 (EU-27). In 2012, almost one quarter of the European population was at risk of poverty, on a 'wealthy continent'.

Which subgroups of society were the most hit by the 'Great Recession'? What are the current drivers of poverty in Europe today? And what political actions are undertaken to fight against this new 21st century social scourge?

Through a statistical analysis of the most recent trends in poverty in the European Union, this paper analyses the consequences of the crisis on the level and the nature of poverty in Europe and describes the political actions that are implemented to counter this phenomenon.

In-Depth Analysis [DE](#), [EN](#), [FR](#)

What is 'Social Triple A'?

Publication type At a Glance

Date 01-03-2016

Author LECERF Marie

Policy area Social Policy

Keyword coordination of EMU policies | employment | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | EU employment policy | European social policy | fight against unemployment | FINANCE | integration into employment | LAW | monetary economics | rights and freedoms | social affairs | social protection | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | social rights | social security | youth employment

Summary In a context of austerity and fragile economic recovery, the call for a more 'social' Europe is growing. In his October 2014 speech to the European Parliament, European Commission President-elect, Jean-Claude Juncker, spoke of his wish for Europe to be 'triple-A on social issues', putting social issues further up on the agenda. So far, initiatives have been launched by the Commission to give greater prominence to employment and social considerations in European policies. Parliament, for its part, consistently pushes for higher European social standards.

At a Glance [EN](#)

The European Accessibility Act

Publication type At a Glance

Date 08-12-2015

Author LECERF Marie

Policy area Social Policy

Keyword EU Charter of Fundamental Rights | European construction | European social policy | EUROPEAN UNION | facilities for the disabled | independence of the disabled | integration of the disabled | international affairs | INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS | social affairs | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | UN convention

Summary Persons with disabilities are a growing share of the European population. Their daily life is hampered by a lack of accessible goods and services. Although the European Union has set a framework for promoting accessibility, its implementation has not been easy. The European Accessibility Act could represent real progress for persons with disabilities in the EU.

At a Glance [EN](#)

Employment and social aspects of the Europe 2020 strategy

Publication type At a Glance

Date 18-11-2014

Author LECERF Marie

Policy area Education | Employment | Social Policy

Keyword coordination of EMU policies | distribution of wealth | dropout | economic and social cohesion | economic conditions | economic situation | ECONOMICS | education | EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATIONS | employment | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | EU employment policy | EU growth strategy | European construction | European social policy | EUROPEAN UNION | fight against unemployment | FINANCE | labour market | labour market | monetary economics | national accounts | poverty | social affairs | social framework | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | social situation

Summary The employment and social dimension of European integration is a key element of the Europe 2020 Strategy, which aims at ensuring 'inclusive growth'. Four years after its launch, the European Commission has begun a review of this strategy. The European Parliament, for its part, is preparing a resolution on the employment and social aspects of the Europe 2020 strategy.

At a Glance [DE](#), [EN](#), [ES](#), [FR](#), [IT](#), [PL](#)

Jyrki Katainen - Vice-President – Jobs, Growth, Investment and Competitiveness - Hearings of the European Commissioners-designate

Publication type Briefing

Date 26-09-2014

Author LECERF Marie

Policy area Economics and Monetary Issues | Employment | Internal Market and Customs Union | Social Policy

Keyword appointment of members | BUSINESS AND COMPETITION | business organisation | competitiveness | economic conditions | economic geography | economic growth | ECONOMICS | employment | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | EP Committee | EU institutions and European civil service | Europe | European Commissioner | EUROPEAN UNION | fight against unemployment | FINANCE | financing and investment | Finland | GEOGRAPHY | investment policy | job creation | parliamentary proceedings | political geography | POLITICS | public hearing | vice-president of an institution

Summary The Vice President-designate for Jobs, Growth, Investment and Competitiveness is Jyrki Katainen, Finland. His hearing will take place before the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs (ECON), Employment and Social Affairs (EMPL), Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE) on Tuesday 7 October at 10.00 hours.

Briefing [DE](#), [EN](#), [FR](#)

Marianne Thyssen - Employment, Social Affairs, Skills and Labour Mobility - Hearings of European Commissioners-designate

Publication type Briefing

Date 25-09-2014

Author LECERF Marie

Policy area Employment | Social Policy

Keyword appointment of members | Belgium | economic geography | employment | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | EP Committee | EU employment policy | EU institutions and European civil service | Europe | European Commissioner | European social policy | EUROPEAN UNION | GEOGRAPHY | parliamentary proceedings | political geography | POLITICS | public hearing | social affairs | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary The Commissioner-designate for Employment, Social Affairs, Skills and Labour Mobility is Marianne Thyssen, Belgium. Her hearing will take place before the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs (EMPL) on Wednesday 1 October 2014 at 09:00 hours.

Briefing [DE](#), [EN](#), [FR](#)

The European Union's response to Ebola

Publication type At a Glance

Date 11-09-2014

Author LECERF Marie

Policy area Environment | Food Safety | Public Health

Keyword Africa | cooperation policy | disease prevention | ECHO | economic geography | epidemic | EU institutions and European civil service | European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control | EUROPEAN UNION | GEOGRAPHY | Guinea | health | health aid | humanitarian aid | infectious disease | INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS | INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS | Liberia | medical research | Nigeria | non-governmental organisation | non-governmental organisations | public health | Senegal | Sierra Leone | SOCIAL QUESTIONS | United Nations | World Health Organisation

Summary A number of West African countries are currently experiencing the worst Ebola epidemic in history. As the situation continues to deteriorate rapidly, the European Commission has stepped up its response since March 2014 and is now pledging more than €147 million in response to the devastating human, sanitary, economic and political effects of this crisis for the region. Since the beginning of the epidemic, the European Parliament has shown its concern as regards this critical situation.

At a Glance [EN](#)

European Union pensions policy

Publication type Briefing

Date 09-04-2014

Author LECERF Marie

Policy area Internal Market and Customs Union | Social Policy

Keyword budget | demography and population | economic analysis | economic consequence | ECONOMICS | employment | EMPLOYMENT AND WORKING CONDITIONS | European social policy | FINANCE | gender equality | labour market | LAW | older worker | pension scheme | population ageing | public expenditure | retirement conditions | rights and freedoms | social affairs | social cost | social protection | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary Although Member States have the primary responsibility for designing their pension systems, major demographic changes along with strong economic shocks make the case for updating the European Union's role as regards pensions. The European Commission's 2012 White Paper on pensions has been fundamental to this process. Describing how the European Union (EU) could best help Member States to provide pensions for an ageing population, it emphasises the need to address the objectives of adequacy, safety and sustainability together.

Briefing [EN](#)

[Coup de pouce européen en faveur des jeunes](#)

Publication type At a Glance

Date 21-03-2014

Author LECERF Marie

Policy area Social Policy

Summary Avec plus d'un jeune européen sur cinq au chômage, l'Union européenne (UE) a fait de l'insertion de sa jeunesse une priorité. Pour venir en aide aux 15-24 ans en difficulté, la mise en place d'une "garantie pour la jeunesse" - offrir à chaque jeune de moins de 25 ans un emploi de qualité, une formation continue, un apprentissage ou un stage dans les quatre mois suivant la fin de sa scolarité ou la perte de son emploi - constitue un nouveau dispositif phare.

[At a Glance](#) [FR](#)

[Libre circulation des travailleurs dans l'UE](#)

Publication type At a Glance

Date 06-03-2014

Author LECERF Marie

Policy area Area of Freedom, Security and Justice | Employment

Summary Depuis les années soixante, les travailleurs de l'Union européenne (UE) peuvent travailler librement dans un autre État membre que le leur. Toutefois, de nombreuses entraves restreignent encore l'exercice de ce droit. La Commission européenne a proposé en avril 2013 une directive visant à établir des mesures facilitant concrètement la mobilité professionnelle dans l'Union.

[At a Glance](#) [FR](#)

[Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived](#)

Publication type At a Glance

Date 18-02-2014

Author LECERF Marie

Policy area Social Policy

Keyword aid to disadvantaged groups | ECONOMICS | EU finance | European social policy | EUROPEAN UNION | fund (EU) | marginalisation | national accounts | poverty | social affairs | social integration | social protection | SOCIAL QUESTIONS

Summary A €3.5 billion Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived (FEAD) is poised to replace for 2014-20 the EU food aid programme that ended last year. The Fund, which is separate from the Common Agricultural Policy and applies to all Member States, is intended to alleviate the worst forms of poverty by providing non-financial assistance such as food, clothing and other essential goods to the most disadvantaged people.

[At a Glance](#) [EN](#)

[Une garantie européenne pour la jeunesse: Favoriser l'insertion sur le marché du travail](#)

Publication type Briefing

Date 27-01-2014

Author LECERF Marie

Policy area Employment

Summary Avec plus d'un jeune européen sur cinq au chômage, l'Union européenne a fait de l'insertion de sa jeunesse une priorité. Pour venir en aide aux 15-24 ans en difficulté, la mise en place d'une "garantie pour la jeunesse" constitue un nouveau dispositif phare.

[Briefing](#) [FR](#)