



Ongoing activities in the field of employment and social affairs - update

11 December 2015

Commission Work Programme 2016: No time for business as usual

- *Reaffirming the 10 priorities of the Political Guidelines, i.e. the Juncker Commission's political contract with the European Parliament*
- *VP Timmermans: "One year ago this Commission made a new start, committing to focus on the big things where citizens expect the EU to make a difference. Today we are taking the next steps to deliver on these political priorities. (...) This is no time for business as usual: citizens will judge the EU on whether it delivers results on the major challenges facing our societies today."*

CWP 2016: New initiatives

- Employment and social affairs
 - New Skills Agenda for Europe
 - New start for working parents
 - Labour Mobility Package
 - Pillar of Social Rights
- Other
 - Implementation of the Digital Single Market Strategy
 - Follow-up to the Single Market Strategy
 - Follow-up to the Trade and Investment Strategy

CWP 2016: REFIT initiatives

- Employment and social affairs
 - Occupational Health and Safety Legislation
- Other
 - State Aid: Commission Notice on a Simplified Procedure for the treatment of certain types of State Aid

New Start for SD: follow-up activities

- **Political meetings on key Commission initiatives**
 - Meeting with VP Katainen on Investment Plan (April 2015)
 - Meeting with VP Sefcovic on Energy Union (June and November 2015)
 - Meeting with VP Ansip on Digital Single Market (February 2016)
- **LV pres. events + Informal EPSCO on social dialogue**
- **March/October Tripartite Social Summits**
- **Dedicated hearings on key policy initiatives:**
 - Integration of long-term unemployed (April 2015)
 - Mobility package (June 2015)
 - Skills agenda (January 2016)
- **Formal Consultation of social partners (cf. Art. 154)**
 - Information and consultation of workers (April 2015)
 - Work-life balance (November 2015)
- **Creation of 2 thematic groups to substantiate the commitments and to monitor the follow-up**

Sectoral dimension of the new start

1) Needs and gaps in terms of capacity building?

- Legal advice, analytical capacity, institutional framework, mutual learning...?
- Membership, representativeness, mandate, reaching out to missing sectors...?

2) Relevance for the European Semester?

- Sectoral dimension vs. more focussed CSRs...?
- Specificity of collective bargaining in CSRs and EG 7...?

3) SSDC priorities and outcomes?

- Interconnectedness between SSDCs and EU institutions work programmes...?
- Relations between sectors, emergence of new themes...?

4) Design and implementation of agreements?

- Rationale and added-value, evidence base...?
- Mutual learning activities, peer reviews...?

Informal WG on communication - Objectives

- ***Improve visibility of the EU sectoral social dialogue and its outcomes***
 - on political level (European and national)
 - towards general public (e.g. EU citizens, civil society)
 - targeted stakeholders (e.g. national SPs, third parties)
- ***Improve information exchange among SSDCs and between social partners and COM***

Message 1:

Social partners are different from civil society

Actions (to be) taken by social partners

- Informing the EU institutions about the specificity and added value of social dialogue by means of social media, joint opinions, joint recommendations, meetings etc.
- Making national governments of the MSs (in particular CEE countries and candidate countries) aware of specificity of social dialogue
- Fostering more regular exchanges with Member States in Brussels or at the national level with national authorities

Actions (to be) taken by the Commission services

- High level meeting on new start social dialogue
- Reinforced coordination within Commission
- Internal trainings
- FAQ for internal COM use
- Connection between COM representations and European Semester Officers with national SPs

Message 2: Social Dialogue Produces Results

Actions (to be) taken by social partners

- EU and national social partners inform the general public about SD outcomes (e.g. sectoral weeks)
- Organise SD projects and initiatives in MSs (e.g. joint Cross-Border Observatory in the TAW sector)
- Inform national governments about the outcomes of EU social dialogue

Actions (to be) taken by Commission services

- Update of Brochure on EU social dialogue and its translation in all EU languages
- Update of the SD website EUROPA with animation explaining social dialogue
- Explore possibility of "Newspage" on social dialogue themes with regular spotlight and inclusion in the DG EMPL newsletter

Message 3: EU Social Dialogue is relevant to you

Actions (to be) taken by social partners

- Informing national SPs about the outcomes of EU social dialogue by means of national workshops/round tables, follow-up meetings (both with national SPs as well as companies), information/promotion material, toolboxes etc.
- Support national members in SSDC in their communication efforts towards their own constituency
- Communication strategy should be discussed in the relevant SSDC at least once per year
- Inclusion of communication in the joint work programmes (e.g. exchange of experience in the SSDC)
- Taking the opportunity of the tripartite nature of EU agencies (OSHA, Eurofound, CEDEFOP) and ILO to raise awareness on SD outcomes

Message 4: Good communication requires internal communication

Actions (to be) taken by social partners

- Improving communication between sectoral social partners (within their respective umbrella organization or other types of informal networks)
- Improving communication between different SSDCs

Actions (to be) taken by Commission services

- Standing agenda item at the Liaison Forum(s) should:
 - evaluate communication activities by COM and SPs
 - Allow social partners /SSDC to present best practices
 - identify upcoming communication opportunities
- Explore possibility of "Spotlight" on social dialogue outcome on EMPL website - e.g. newsfeeds, social media feeds etc.
- Survey on opportunity of 'newsletter'

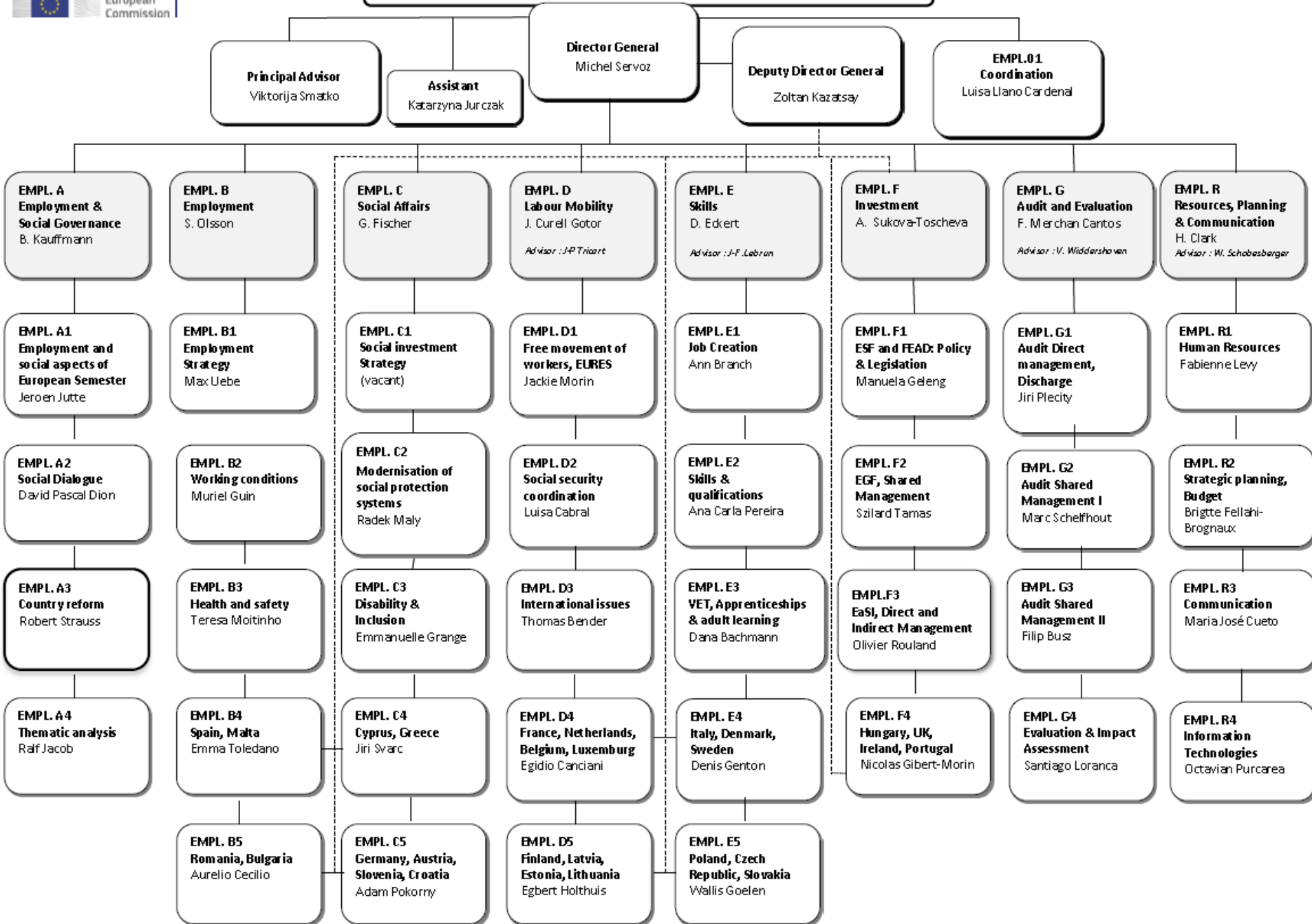


Eurofound Foundation Focus



<http://www.eurofound.europa.eu/publications/foundation-focus/2015/industrial-relations/foundation-focus-social-dialogue-for-a-competitive-fair-and-modern-europe>

EMPLOYMENT, SOCIAL AFFAIRS AND INCLUSION DG





Thank you for your attention!