



European Economic
and Social Committee

NEWSLETTER

European ESC



CESlink : Online Cooperation between
Economic and Social Councils

Presentation



Dear Sir/Madam,

Let me take this occasion to express my best wishes for the New Year 2013.

We will hold the EESC **486th plenary session** on 16 and 17 January 2013 in the European Parliament's József Antall building. As usual our plenary debates will be web streamed and we encourage you to **follow us online**.

At this first session of the new year, we are particularly honored to welcome **Mr Herman VAN ROMPUY**, President of the European Council, who will share his views on the present and future policies of the European Council in the current political and economic context of the EU.

I am equally delighted to invite you to get involved in fruitful discussions with the participation of **Mr Andreas MAVROYIANNIS**, Cyprus Deputy Minister for European Affairs, who will review the Cyprus Presidency.

Best wishes,

**Staffan Nilsson,
President**

👉 Main debates and opinions on the agenda of the Plenary Session of 16 and 17 January 2013

- **Mr Andreas MAVROYIANNIS**, Cyprus Deputy Minister for European Affairs, will intervene on Wednesday **16 January at 3.00 pm**.
- **Mr Herman VAN ROMPUY**, President of the European Council, will speak on Thursday **17 January at 10.00 am**.

➔ Main opinions

TEN/494 Towards a EU Cloud Computing Strategy	Mr PIGAL (GRII-FR)
SOC/445 Unleashing the potential of children and young people with high intellectual abilities	Mr RODRÍGUES GARCÍA-CARO (GRI-ES)
SOC/471 The gender dimension in the Europe 2020 strategy	Ms AGUDO I BATALLER (GRII-ES)
INT/655 Single Market Act II	Mr SIECKER (GRII-NL)

To consult the draft agenda of the plenary session and related documents, click on this link: [Agenda of the plenary session](#)

👉 Main opinions adopted at the Plenary Session of 12 and 13 December 2012

👉 You will find information concerning these opinions at: <http://www.eesc.europa.eu/?i=portal.en.opinions-search>

➔ Summary Plenary Sessions

TEN/492 Renewable energy : a major player in the European energy market (communication)	Ms SIRKEINEN (GRI – FI)
NAT/585 Rio+20 - achievements and future prospects (additional opinion)	Mr WILMS (GRII – DE)
NAT/539 Social farming: Green care and social and health policies (own-initiative)	Ms WILLEMS (GRIII- LU)

Past events

On **18 December 2012** the EESC organised a public hearing on **Rio+20 follow-up** with the participation of President NILSSON and Commissioner POTOČNIK. More information can be found on <http://www.eesc.europa.eu/?i=portal.en.events-and-activities-eu-follow-up-to-rio20>

Ongoing

- [Irish Presidency of the Council of the EU](http://www.eu2013.ie/) : <http://www.eu2013.ie/>
- [News from the Irish Presidency](#)



- [The EESC during the Irish Presidency:](#)



Upcoming events

- [European Year of Citizens 2013](#)

On **23 and 24 January 2013** the EESC will launch the **European Year of the Citizen 2013** with an **Open Space** event that shall explore future pathways of active European citizenship.



We welcome all your comments. Just e-mail us using this link: [suggestions](#).

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"Interinstitutional relations, relations with national ESCs"