



## Measures to improve mental health

### Mesures d'amélioration dans le domaine de la santé mentale

11.04.2023 | 9:30 – 13:00 | Virtual public hearing / Audition publique virtuelle

EESC Building, Rue Belliard 99, Room JDE 60 (6<sup>th</sup> floor)

Even before the pandemic, mental health problems affected more than 84 million people across the EU, with costs to Member States estimated at over 4% of GDP, according to the Health at a Glance 2018 report. In its European framework for action on mental health 2021–2025, the WHO calculated that far more, namely in excess of 125 million people were affected.

In the context of the preparation of the exploratory opinion requested by the future Spanish presidency on "Measures to improve mental health" and ahead of the publication by the European Commission of the Communication on "A Comprehensive approach to mental health", the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) is organising a hybrid public hearing. The aim of the event is to gather input from policy makers, civil society organisations and social partners, which will feed into the EESC's opinion.

## Programme

9:00 – 09:30	Testing connections
09:30-09:35	Opening and Introduction by <b>Dovilė Juodkaitė</b> , President of the study group
09:35-09:45	Presentation of the request by <b>Pilar Aparicio</b> , Director General of Public Health, Spanish Health Ministry, on behalf of the future EU Spanish presidency
09:45-11:00	<p><b>Panel 1: Representatives from Institutions</b></p> <p>Moderator: Michalis Antoniou, member of the study group, EESC</p> <p>Interventions by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Stefan Schreck</b>, DG SANTE, European Commission</li> <li>• <b>Soraya Rodriguez Ramos</b>; Mental Health Coalition, European Parliament</li> <li>• <b>Ledia Lazeri</b>, Europe Regional Advisor for Mental Health, World Health Organisation (WHO)</li> </ul> <p>Q&amp;A</p>

11:00-12: 00	<p><b>Panel 2: Representatives from Civil Society and Social Partners</b></p> <p>Moderator: Diego Dutto, member of the study group, EESC</p> <p>Interventions by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Adam Rogalewski</b>, Policy Officer, European Public Services Union (EPSU)</li> <li>• <b>Valeria Ronzitti</b>, Secretary General, SGI Europe</li> <li>• <b>Laura Marchetti</b>, Policy Manager, Mental Health Europe</li> </ul> <p>Q&amp;A</p>
12:00-12:15	<p>Conclusions by <b>Milena Angelova</b>, rapporteur of the EESC opinion and <b>Ivan Kokalov</b>, co-rapporteur</p>
12:15-12:30	<p>Closing remarks by <b>Laurentiu Plosceanu</b>, President of the Section for Employment, Social Affairs and Citizenship, EESC</p>

*Interpretation: participants can speak in EN-IT-ES-HU – LT-BG tbc and listen to EN-ES – LT-BG tbc*