



European Economic and Social Committee

Conference
on
**"Perspectives and priorities for
the new Commission and the European Parliament:
Social economy and social innovation as drivers of competitiveness,
growth and social well-being"**

Co-organised by the Social Economy Category, the SOC and INT Sections of the EESC

1 October 2014
EESC, Room VMA 3
Rue van Maerlant 2, 1040 Brussel

Programme

9 a.m. Registration

9.30 a.m. Opening

- *Maureen O'Neill*, President, SOC Section, EESC
- *Miguel Ángel Cabra de Luna*, Spokesperson of the Social Economy Category, EESC
- *Carlo Presenti*, General Director at the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, Attaché Youth and Sport at the Permanent Representation of Italy to the EU
- *Heinz K. Becker*, MEP, rapporteur for the European Parliament on the "Social Business Initiative"

10 a.m. **Stocktaking – where is the EU in terms of promoting the Social Economy and the role of Social Enterprises as drivers of social innovation, competitiveness and social well-being?**

Moderator: *Maureen O'Neill*, President of the SOC Section, EESC

- *Jens Nilsson*, MEP, European Parliament Social Economy Intergroup
- *Amaryllis Verhoeven*, Deputy Head of Unit MARKT 01 (Single Market Policy, Relations with the Council), DG Internal Market and Services, European Commission
- *Apostolos Ioakimidis*, Policy Officer (Entrepreneurship 2020 Cooperatives, Mutuals, Social Enterprises, Family Businesses), DG Enterprise and Industry, European Commission
- *Xavier Le Mounier*, Policy Officer (Innovation Policy for Growth), DG Enterprise and Industry, European Commission
- *Alain Coheur*, President, Social Economy Europe (SEE)

Discussion

11.30 a.m. Coffee Break

11.40 a.m. **Learning from outside the EU – what are other international organisations doing in the Social Economy area?**

Moderator: *Martin Siecker*, President, INT Section, EESC

- *Antonella Noya*, Senior Policy Analyst, OECD
- *Roberto di Meglio*, Senior Technical Specialist, ILO
- *Sarah Cook*, Director, United Nations Research Institute for Social Development, United Nations
- *Guggi Laryea*, International Affairs Officer, World Bank

Discussion

1 p.m. **Lunch break**

2.30 p.m. **Learning from practice – case studies of how Social Economy and Social Enterprises are concretely contributing to social innovation and competitiveness**

Moderator: *Antonello Pezzini*, Member of the Employers' Group, Rapporteur of the EESC Opinion on the Innovation Investment Package

- Le mutual Groupe MGEN, France - *Julie Savary*, Head of Mission, Cabinet of the Presidency
- The Wales Council for Voluntary Actions, Communities Investment Fund - *Matthew Brown*, Manager
- Coöperatieve Esbeek: An example of a Rural alliance, Netherlands – *Wiet van Meel*, volunteer sustainable development advisor to Coöperatieve Esbeek and professional occupation at Pontifax and Coopnet

Discussion

3.30 p.m. **New perspectives – defining the priorities for the new European Commission and the new European Parliament**

Moderator: *Miguel Ángel Cabra de Luna*, Spokesperson of the Social Economy Category, EESC

- *Juan Antonio Pedreno*, Vice-President of Social Economy Europe (SEE) and President of CEPES
- *Klaus Niederländer*, Director, Cooperatives Europe
- *Gregor Pozniak*, Secretary-General, Association of Mutual Insurers and Insurance Cooperatives in Europe (AMICE)
- *Ariane Rodert*, EESC Member, Coordinator of the EESC Social Enterprise Project

Discussion

4.45 p.m. **Conclusions**

- *Lieve Fransen*, Director (Europe 2020 Strategy: Social Policies), DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, European Commission
- *Luca Jahier*, President of the Various Interests Group, EESC

Interpretation

Participants can speak and listen to: **Spanish, German, English, French and Italian**