



EESC info

European Economic and Social Committee
A bridge between Europe and organised civil society
September 2016 | EN



EDITORIAL

Dear readers,

I would like to take this opportunity to look back on some of the main achievements in the Communications area during the first year of the EESC's present term of office. I also outline some of the key communications opportunities over the coming months. Please

see it as a preview of forthcoming activities, as we move towards a more effective EESC communication policy.

Most recently, the July plenary was marked by two twin opinions tackling the thorny subjects of preserving Europe's steel industry and its jobs and whether or not the EU should grant China market economy status (MES). The EESC said loud and clear that granting MES to China would mean endangering Europe's key industries. This clear stance on the part of civil society attracted a great deal of media attention, reflecting European citizens' concerns for a decision that could have a dramatic impact on their lives. There is no doubt that we were addressing employers', workers' and consumers' concerns at the same time, and I hope that the coverage of these debates in this issue will be of interest to you too.

Planned obsolescence has continued to be another important focus for the EESC's press work over the past year. After spearheading a campaign for EU action with its opinion in 2013, the EESC published a landmark study on product lifetime labelling, indicating that consumers are willing to pay more for longer-lasting products. Once again, the EESC was working in anticipation of an inevitable dossier: the circular economy.

The EESC has also been very active in championing the rights of the disabled. The event organised on 14 December to mark International Day of Persons with Disabilities in the wake of the new EU Accessibility Act reasserted the EESC's commitment to ensure that the disabled have a say in all decisions affecting them. The *Civil Society Prize 2015* also focused on poverty in Europe and supported best practice grassroots organisations fighting poverty in Europe. The success and role of the EESC in promoting victims' rights in Europe was also covered by high profile media last November to mark the transposition date of the EU Directive which was championed by the Committee from the beginning.

Migration and the integration of migrants and refugees in the EU have been a common thread running through the EESC's 2016 activities. From its major round of fact-finding missions to the most affected countries and the resulting practical proposals to EU policy makers to the youth debates in Brussels under *Your Europe, Your Say 2016*, a great deal has been done to promote a sustainable solution. The *Civil Society Prize 2016*, which will be awarded in December to organisations supporting migrants, will crown a year of sustained effort.

This autumn, the EESC will also embark on a new major round of fact-finding missions to explore the situation of social rights in the EU Member States. From 24 to 25 November, the EESC Civil Society Media Seminar will be organised in Vienna. We will continue to consult widely across the Committee on the development of the EESC's new website. Through the activities of the Communications Department, from key publications and social media and press promotion to the organisation of numerous events and activities and receiving thousands of visitors from across the EU, we look forward to supporting even more the important consultative works of the Committee and to amplifying the voice of both the EESC and Civil Society in the EU. *Going Local* is a priority of our mandate. EESC members are firmly anchored in Member States' organisations and as such have both the ability and an obligation not only to bring their views to Brussels, but also to communicate Europe *back home*.

Of course, communication is a two way process and a joint responsibility, and the EESC's core activity is the hard work of its members and sections producing opinions that help shape EU legislation. However, communication has an important role to play in bringing this work to the attention of the public.

For the coming season, which will see the new Slovak presidency organise a wealth of activities, we will continue to focus on communicating our quality work in the search for European solutions to the challenges we are facing. Let's do it together!

Gonçalo Lobo Xavier
EESC Vice-President for Communication

EESC against granting market economy status to China

The EESC has warned against granting market economy status (MES) to China and is calling on the European institutions to actively defend European jobs and European values using effective trade defence instruments. In its opinion adopted on 14 July, the EESC points to the potentially disastrous impact on Europe's industry and labour market of granting MES to China.

"European industry needs a level playing-field and to be protected against unfair competitive practices. As long as China does not meet the EU five criteria, it does not qualify as a market economy", noted rapporteur Andrés Barceló (Employers' Group - ES).

Industries that are particularly affected include: aluminium, bicycles, ceramics, glass, vehicle parts, paper and steel. The EESC is also concerned about the impact on innovation and consequently on Europe's competitiveness. *"The whole industrial value chain would be imperilled and Europe would risk losing countless jobs, including highly specialised jobs. Our competitiveness would be at stake, as only a strong industry is able to invest*



From left to right: EESC member Andrés Barceló, rapporteur of both the steel and the MES opinions, and CCMI delegates Enrico Gibellieri and Gerald Kreuzer, co-rapporteurs of the steel and MES opinions respectively, at the plenary debate



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in R&D", underlined co-rapporteur Gerald Kreuzer (CCMI delegate - AU).

Apart from its impact on jobs, growth and innovation in Europe, granting MES to China would also be a serious setback for Europe's ambitions in relation to sustainable development and the fight against climate change.

The EESC will set up a special project on behalf of organised civil society to monitor the issue of MES for China. (sma)

Europe's steel industry needs a level playing field to survive

Europe's steel industry has been hit by the economic crisis and a flood of unfairly-traded steel imports, which have driven down steel prices and consequently decimated European steel production. *"We need a level playing field for Europe's steel industry",* said Andrés Barceló (Employers' Group - ES), rapporteur of the opinion **Steel: Preserving sustainable jobs and growth in Europe**.

This is why the EESC is also against granting MES to China as this would mean *"outsourcing jobs, importing pollution and finally killing off Europe's steel industry"*.

Instead, the EESC has come up with several proposals on how to restore a level playing field, looking in particular at anti-dumping measures, the



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European Emission Trading System (ETS) and investment:

- Enhancing the effectiveness and efficiency of trade defence instruments, i.e. by abolishing the "lesser duty rule" or by registering imports prior to the adoption of provisional measures, etc.
- Granting free allowances to the most competitive facilities and

compensating European industry for any indirect costs resulting from ETS.

- Boosting investment: modernising plants and equipment, research and development of new and better products and more efficient processes in order to remain at the cutting edge of technology.

The EESC also calls for a swift re-establishment of the High-Level Group on Steel. *"The steel industry is the basis of Europe's industry, therefore it needs our full attention",* said co-rapporteur Enrico Gibellieri (CCMI delegate - IT). (sma)

DIARY DATES

19-20 October / EESC, Brussels:
EESC plenary session

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Competition matters to everyone and leads to a fair society and strong economy, Commissioner Vestager tells EESC Plenary

Margrethe Vestager, EU Commissioner for Competition, argued a strong case for an EU competition policy based on consumers, business and social justice at the EESC plenary session on 14 July. Citing key recent examples on energy, transport, state subsidies and taxation, the Commissioner underlined that competition drove companies to cut prices and improve products, brought economic investment and created jobs.

"The EU is about its people. It's about coming together to find answers to the problems we have in common", said Commissioner Vestager, "[in this Committee], you deal with the issues that affect people's daily lives [...] and you understand what needs to be done to help them. Your opinion on our Annual Competition Report for 2014 starts with a point that I think is fundamental: competition helps everyone. Not only consumers, but businesses and workers as well."

EESC members expressed their support for the policy pursued by Commissioner Vestager and highlighted the current issues in the steel and rail industries relating to China. Social dumping was



Margrethe Vestager, EU Commissioner for Competition, and Georges Dassis, EESC President

also raised, as well as tax avoidance and distortion of self-employment conditions, barriers to e-commerce for SMEs and abuse of market position in sectors formerly dominated by national monopolies.

The EESC President, Georges Dassis, thanked Commissioner Vestager and welcomed her socially inclusive approach to competition, encouraging her to pursue and deliver on her commitments. (cad) ●

EESC calls for strong EU action against wildlife trafficking

Wildlife trafficking has become one of the most profitable illegal activities in the world due to strong demand and a low risk of detection. In its opinion, adopted at its July plenary, the EESC welcomes the proposed *EU Action Plan against wildlife trafficking* and highlights that this crime should be countered at different levels of the supply chain:

- at the community level in source countries, by raising awareness and creating sustainable jobs and income as alternatives to poaching and trafficking;
- at organised crime level, by enforcing a system of common and effective sanctions;
- at the demand level, by raising businesses' and consumers' awareness and creating a traceability and labelling system;
- at the judiciary level, by promoting enforcement and training judges to ensure consistent and proportional sentences.

However, the European Commission makes no reference to the threat represented to public health and to native animal and plant species. This issue is highly relevant and should absolutely be included in the EU Action Plan. Labelling and traceability systems would be appropriate means to counter the emergence and spread of diseases.



To support the objectives of this Action Plan, the Committee urges the EU to take a strong stance at the upcoming 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (CoP17) on the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES). In particular, the EESC calls on the Commission to support the proposal to close domestic markets for ivory as a critical contribution to avert the threat of extinction to African elephants.

Finally, the EESC reiterates its willingness to support every EU initiative in this context. (sma) ●

THE EESC FROM THE INSIDE OUT

2015 Annual Activity Report

The *EESC from the inside out* brochure has just been published. This is the version of the official 2015 annual activity report designed for the general public.

It features charts and other graphics illustrating the workings of the EESC and is available in three language versions: English, French and German. Hard copies can be ordered from: vipcese@eesc.europa.eu.

The report is available on: <http://www.eesc.europa.eu/?i=portal.en.publications&itemCode=40141> (jp) ●



New industrial strategy for the 'digital age'

The opportunities presented by the digital industrial revolution require a coordinated response from all stakeholders, a renewed focus on skills and the setting up of regional networks. In its opinion *Industry 4.0 and digital transition: Where to go*, the EESC therefore calls for an "EU 4.0 industrial strategy" in order to address the current fragmentation resulting from 28 separate digital policies.

The EESC wants the Commission to focus on raising awareness of the importance of acquiring digital skills, and to present effective, EU-level coordination as an example to national governments. Digital innovation hubs as centres for advanced training of the workforce could be an effective means.

"Cooperation is key," said rapporteur Joost van Iersel (Employers' Group – NL), *"national and regional 4.0 platforms must bring together all relevant actors. Within a common EU framework, each*



should develop its own characteristics. Partnerships of all kinds, synergies and clustering, cross-border arrangements and European benchmarking should be promoted."

The EESC now calls on the Commission to act as a catalyst to implement the strategic plan.

The Committee also wants policy-makers to take into account the considerable social consequences of the digital industrial revolution. Deepening EU social dialogue will facilitate early adjustments in the field of social and labour law, in order to protect the workforce. (sma) ●

Digital e-seniors and the silver economy

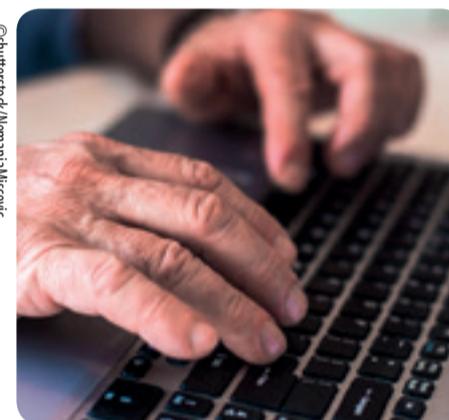
In its opinion *The digital pillar of growth: e-seniors, a potential 25% of the European population*, adopted at the July plenary, the EESC argues that the increased number of elderly people can be an opportunity for the commercial sector. Indeed, some 25% of the EU population are older citizens, constituting a growing market of economic and social players in the digital age.

The EU faces a new challenge: keeping these 125 million people included in daily life and encouraging them to embrace the widespread digitalisation. It is vital to change our approach to the "silver economy", according to the EESC.

By 2060, there will be two older people for every young person, and the number of very elderly people will exceed the number of children under five.

"Information technologies", notes EESC rapporteur Laure Batut (Workers' Group – FR), *"must become just as much a part of the lives of Europe's 125 million older citizens as they are for others, and not limited to technical or medical aid."*

One approach would be to provide public spaces where people have free internet access, with



assistance offered by the local administration, and to set up voluntary dedicated civic services. Clearly, ensuring access necessitates the development of a global system of governance to bring older people into the digital world. In addition to this, the EESC recommends adding a "senior" strand to Erasmus+ called, for instance, SENECA - a 'Senior Erasmus Programme' that could be an ideal platform for exchanging good practices and promoting the acquisition of digital skills. (cad) ●

Investment, integration and social dialogue for a profitable European aviation sector

The overarching goal of the EU aviation strategy should be to create a climate that encourages European investors to invest in the aviation sector, according to the EESC.

In its opinion *Aviation Package I*, the Committee calls for European investment to follow the example of other governments across the globe that strategically invest in their aviation industries. Currently, the sector is facing severe competition from non-EU competitors and the European market is highly attractive for external airlines and manufacturers.

"We have to convince European investors that aviation can still be a profitable business", said Jacek P. Krawczyk, EESC rapporteur and President of the Employers' Group, *"European aviation must be proactive when competing with global players. If others are willing to benefit from the large European market, they should fulfil European standards in terms of safety, environmental protection, labour law and state aid."*

The EESC affirms that besides needing a level playing field, the strategy will only succeed if it enjoys

wide-ranging stakeholder support, tackles constraints on capacity in the air and on the ground, and promotes innovation. The EESC is adamant that progress must be closely linked to an open, fair and frank social dialogue. (mm) ●



The EESC calls on the EU Commission to strengthen economic and social cohesion and citizens' ownership of the EU

A year for a new impetus and greater solidarity in Europe

The EESC President, George Dassis, met on 18 July with the European Commission's First Vice-President, Frans Timmermans, to deliver the EESC's contribution to the Commission's 2017 work programme. The Committee recommends strengthening economic and social cohesion, boosting the EU's global role and giving European citizens a greater sense of ownership of the EU.



In its contribution, the Committee stresses that 2017 should be a year of fresh momentum and more solidarity in Europe. The EESC document recommends concrete actions related to the 2017 Commission strategy. The EESC also asks to be fully involved in the Brexit negotiation process and urges the Commission to reconsider its 10 priority areas, taking into account the UK's exit from the EU.

President Dassis stated that "the Commission must strive to restore a spirit of solidarity and

responsibility in Europe and win back public support. It must also do its utmost to resolve the current uncertainties surrounding the future of the EU as quickly as possible. The result of the British referendum is a sad reminder that the European project can only move forward if citizens' concerns – which are dominated by increasing social and economic uncertainty – are met with quick and effective responses." (mm)



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The fight against climate change needs strong citizen involvement

The EESC has adopted an opinion on building a **Coalition to deliver the commitments of the Paris Agreement**, in which it takes a close look at how to better include civil society in the implementation of the Paris Agreement. Civil society's potential in terms of climate protection measures must be fully tapped; the energy sector, in particular, offers huge opportunities. "It is red tape that deters many people from realising their own projects. Another barrier is access to finance", explained rapporteur Lutz Ribbe (Various Interests Group – DE), calling for a multilevel governance coalition, which should breathe new life into the "think global, act local" principle.

This coalition should:

- gain a clear picture of what civil society players are planning and are able/permitted to carry out;
- identify the obstacles they are facing and remove them;

- tell the success stories in order to motivate others;
- explain how to make things work by specifying key conditions for success; and
- develop a policy framework that puts in place the conditions required for action.

The EESC is calling for a bottom-up framework for climate action and social protection for those engaged in it. "Social dialogue and collective bargaining between employers' organisations and trade unions must create this framework for new professions and new ways of working", said Isabel Caño Aguilar (Workers' Group – ES), co-rapporteur for the opinion.

The EESC has already started to build this coalition in cooperation with the CoR, Comité 21 and other partners. (sma)

VIEWPOINT

EU and Turkey – Reasonable dialogue for reasonable solutions

by Dilyana Slavova, President of the EESC External Relations Section, Various Interests Group

Over the past year, Turkey has been at the forefront of the global political scene following the Syrian crisis, the massive flow of refugees to Europe and the recently failed coup.

After the putsch, a state of emergency was declared in Turkey, and Europeans fear that President Erdoğan may be using the coup attempt as an excuse to further tighten his grip, while the Turkish government protests against the EU's lack of empathy.

EU citizens are deeply worried by the latest developments in Turkey, which demonstrate a high level of state control over, and involvement in, organised civil society, and are asking serious questions about the future of independent civil

society organisations and the broader role of civil society in Turkey.

We all condemned the failed coup, and insist that the "state of emergency" cannot be used to abuse democracy, human rights and the rule of law. The failed coup should be a reason to uphold, not violate, ILO conventions and international and European human rights conventions.

This is why it is now imperative to adapt and make the EU resilient to rapid geopolitical change. We need to develop effective crisis-management approaches as crisis becomes part of our lives. We need reasonable solutions to the challenges we are facing as a union.

What are the solutions?

The cost of excluding Turkey from European integration is very high for both the EU and Turkey. If Turkey had been fully engaged in the EU accession process since negotiations began in 2005—on issues ranging from foreign policy, the rule of law and refugees to economic growth and energy policies—the picture today would be quite different.

Europe should be much more creative and smarter in its treatment of Turkey. We cannot change geopolitical location but we can be more innovative in interacting with our neighbours. We need peace and stability at our borders. Turkey and Europe should be moderating their rhetoric and increasing cooperation on policy issues that affect both



Dilyana Slavova, President of the EESC External Relations Section

sides. Turkey is still an important geo-strategic neighbour and no individual Member State can successfully negotiate with Turkey. The EU needs to have a clear common strategy to meet the challenges of migration, border control and a filtered flow approach to refugee and migrant flows. It is high time to act as partners with Turkey to achieve reasonable dialogue for reasonable solutions. ●

Deterioration in labour relations and rights in the UK: new report by the EESC Workers' Group

The EESC Workers' Group commissioned an independent UK-based research organisation – the Labour Research Department – to draw up a report entitled *The crisis and the evolution of labour relations in the United Kingdom*. The report's main conclusions are that labour relations and labour rights in the UK have generally taken a hit since the financial crisis of 2008-2009.

Since this period of credit crunch and Great Recession, the status, role and power of trade unions have corroded, their membership has declined and the Trade Union Act 2016 has further restricted strike action.

The report specifically highlights the measures taken since 2010 to drive more austerity, cut benefits and boost temporary contracts, including so-called zero-hour contracts in which workers are not guaranteed a minimum income.

However, the report also notes some positive moves such as efforts to narrow the gender pay gap and the introduction of a voluntary national living wage.

Although published before the UK's decision to leave the EU, the report does highlight that both workers' and employers' unions in Britain were opposed to Brexit.

"In spite of Brexit, or what emerges from it, EU trade unions will continue to work closely with UK trade unions in creating a fairer and more social Europe", declared Gabriele Bischoff, president of the EESC Workers' Group, "We need a social triple-A-rating across the board", she emphasised.

The study is available on: <http://www.eesc.europa.eu/?i=portal.en.group-2-studies.39081> (cad)

EESC members engage in Europe-wide debates on the European Pillar of Social Rights

In March 2016, the European Commission presented an initiative for a European Pillar of Social Rights to put into motion President Juncker's commitment to secure "a fair and truly pan-European labour market", as a part of the on-going work on achieving a deeper and fairer Economic and Monetary Union. The EESC wants to ensure that European civil society is fully involved in this important initiative. It is therefore organising debates with organised civil society in all the Member States. This will provide a platform to exchange and gather views on the most urgent social and economic challenges at national and European level, and how a European Pillar of Social Rights could contribute to addressing these.

The debates will take place from September to mid-October 2016 and the recommendations will feed into the EESC Opinion on the European Pillar of Social Rights, which is due to be

adopted at the December plenary session. The EESC Opinion will contribute to the European Commission's White Paper on the future of the Economic and Monetary Union anticipated for publication in 2017.

The EESC Opinion will cover a range of issues, including the future of work in the context of the changing realities of the world of work such as the transition to a digital economy in the EU, how the labour market can better address the needs of companies, workers and job-seekers, how to secure sustainable and quality social protection and services, as well as how to promote and sustain cohesive societies in Europe. Reflecting the importance of the Social Pillar to the Committee, the Presidents of the three EESC Groups will take on the role of rapporteurs of the EESC Opinion: Mr. Krawczyk (Employers' Group), Mrs. Bischoff (Workers' Group) and Mr. Jahier (Various Interests Group). (cad/dm)



The Employers' Group at the European Forum for New Ideas

How will Industry 4.0 challenge the existing system of industrial relations? What action should be taken by policy-makers, enterprises and workers to benefit from the ongoing digital revolution? How will the labour market change in the years to come and what will social dialogue look like in the future? These are the questions to be raised during the panel organised by the Employers' Group at the European Forum for New Ideas (EFNI), which will take place in Sopot, Poland, at the end of September.



Jacek P. Krawczyk, President of the Employers' Group, at the European Forum for New Ideas (EFNI) in 2015

"The ongoing 4th industrial revolution will not only completely change the organisation of production, but will also have a tremendous impact on the labour market and, in consequence, on social dialogue", said Jacek Krawczyk, President of the Employers' Group, "As this year's edition of EFNI is devoted to the future of work, we decided to examine this impact in detail."

The discussion, entitled "Will the 4th industrial revolution radically change the roles and importance of both employers' organisations and trade unions?", will gather social partners at European and national level, including representatives of BUSINESSEUROPE and ETUC.

The European Forum for New Ideas is an international congress of business communities attended by prominent representatives of politics, culture, science and the media. It has been organised since 2011 by the Polish Confederation Lewiatan, in cooperation with BUSINESSEUROPE, the City of Sopot and Polish and foreign companies and institutions. (lj) ●

The fight against poverty and social exclusion must be a priority

"Nobody can stand on the sidelines", said Gabriele Bischoff, President of the EESC Workers' Group, during her visit to the 2015 EESC Civil Society Prize winner "Armut und Gesundheit in Deutschland", an organisation dedicated to providing medical treatment to the poor and socially disadvantaged. The purpose of the visit was to see first-hand how the prize, which honours and encourages solidarity projects, had been put into practice and had helped the organisation realise its projects. She underlined the EESC's commitment to fighting poverty and social exclusion: "We have an army of committed people in our civil society," said Ms Bischoff, outlining the EESC's approach. "These people deserve our appreciation and the necessary political support."

Poverty takes many forms: unemployment, homelessness, poor or no educational opportunities, material limitations, poor health, etc. Helping the poor to return to health – this is the mission that the founder and director of this association in Mainz, Prof. Gerhard Trabert, has set himself. He drives a mobile clinic around to visit the homeless and socially disadvantaged. The association is also very busy providing advice on social concerns, especially on insurance and (re-)integration into society. Ms Bischoff heard a lot of sad stories, many of them about workers hired under false pretences to work as 'false self-employed', not knowing that they had no insurance cover. "Freedom of movement for workers is one of the most important principles of the EU," she



Gabriele Bischoff, President of the EESC Workers' Group, visiting the 2015 EESC Civil Society Prize winner "Armut und Gesundheit in Deutschland"

commented, "but it is not acceptable that foreign workers are hired as 'false self-employed'. The EU can and must take action to bring an end to this practice." However, she also heard about the many successes the association had been able to achieve thanks to the commitment of its members and also thanks to the EESC's recognition and financial support. (sma) ●

IN SHORT

An EESC delegation visited Moscow to support continued dialogue with Russian civil society organisations

The EESC organised a mission to Russia on 30-31 August. The two-day visit provided an opportunity for EESC members to meet with both the Civic Chamber of the Russian Federation and other Russian civil society organisations. The EESC delegation discussed the current situation for civil society organisations, specifically with regard to human rights and the environment.

As the European body representing European organised civil society in the EU legislative process, in line with the guiding principles of the EU's policy towards Russia, the EESC remains convinced of the need for civil society dialogue between the EU and Russia to remain open at all times, and, by visiting Moscow, the EESC affirmed its continued interest in engaging in people-to-people contacts and supporting Russian civil

society organisations representing different and diverse interests and views.

The delegation consisted of members of the EU-Russia follow-up committee Markus Penttinen (Workers' Group, FI) and Ulrika Westerlund (Various Interests' Group, SE) and of Dilyana Slavova (EESC External Relations Section president, Various Interests Group, BG). (mm/dm) ●

The role of civil society in the European Energy Union:

Ensuring secure, sustainable, competitive and affordable energy

On 27 October 2016, the Various Interests Group will organise a conference on *The role of civil society in the European Energy Union: ensuring secure, sustainable, competitive and affordable energy*, which will take place in Bratislava.

The aim of the conference is to obtain a better understanding of the role civil society has to play in energy security and in the transition to renewable energy at both national and regional levels. The challenge is to channel civil society involvement and expertise towards creating more links, partnerships and dialogue between local, national and regional players.

Maroš Šefčovič, European Commission Vice-President in charge of the Energy Union, has already confirmed his participation in the opening panel as keynote speaker. Mr Šefčovič will present the Commission's point of view regarding the role of civil society in the European Energy Union.

More specifically, the conference will explore the following themes:



- Energy security and efficient supply
- Effective management of the transition to renewable energies
- An Energy Union with a forward-looking climate change policy
- Ways that energy policy can lead to national and regional development
- The new electricity market's design and impact on vulnerable consumers. (cl) ●

SOON IN THE EESC

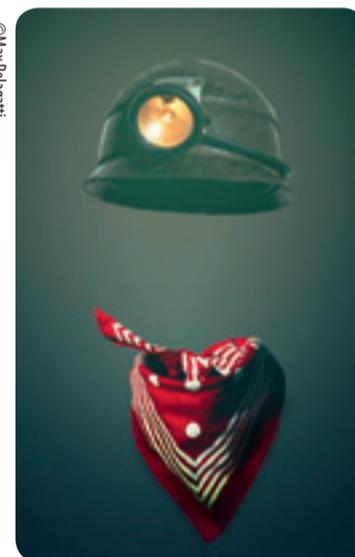
Photo exhibition

The forest of memories: Marcinelle after the tragedy

The EESC is hosting an exhibition of photographs by professional photographer Max Pelagatti. The exhibition, which runs from 21 September to 14 October 2016, is entitled *The forest of memories: Marcinelle after the tragedy* and traces the daily lives of the families of Italian miners who lived in Belgium in 1946-1956. This decade saw the signing of bilateral agreements between Belgium and Italy on labour migration and the disaster at the Bois du Cazier coal mine on 8 August 1956.

The event is organised to mark the 60th anniversary of the Bois du Cazier disaster and the 70th anniversary of the bilateral agreements.

A non-political debate will be organised alongside the exhibition opening on 21 September, in cooperation with the SOC Section. The aim of this debate is to encourage reflection on workers' safety and on the issue



of immigration today, as well as to promote a sense of active European citizenship, solidarity and tolerance. (jp) ●

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