



***EUROPEAN POLICIES  
WITH RELEVANCE  
FOR THE SOCIAL DOMAIN***

**YOUTH CARE PLATFORM  
BRUSSELS, 16 APRIL 2018**

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# What happens in the EU member states?

Next elections as a last 'last chance' for the EU?

Renewed positive feelings on the EU-project?  
(elections NL, FR, DE; debate on the future of EU launched by Juncker)

(Despite - or thanks to? - Brexit)

Macron and Merkel: EU-leadership towards a stronger Europe?

(Despite Italy, Hungary, Poland?)

Impact Brexit: UK mostly against deepening the EU-project. New opportunity for the EU-27?

# Observation: a globalising world

- EU policies are more and more driven by the global: safety and terrorism, refugees, climate change, NATO, complex relations US-Russia, China, EU (including trade relations!)
- But: globalisation turns the Europeans away from politics: nationalism. Europe is seen as ‘the problem’, not ‘part of the solution’

# Momentum for a social correction in the EU's policies?

Opportunity for a policy shift: Momentum for a social correction in the EU's policies? A new step in the 'European social model'?

- Policy domains: pillar of social rights, European semester, solidarity corps, funds & innovation, ...
- Commission is trying to communicate this 'paradigma shift', but "too little, too late"?
- Fundamental 'construction errors' in the EU stay unresolved, due to lack of consensus between member states
- [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/publications/reflection-paper-social-dimension-europe\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/publications/reflection-paper-social-dimension-europe_en)

# Main policies (1)

- Debate on the future of Europe (elections)
  - Budget 2021 – 2027
  - Cohesion policies (ESF, EFRD, ...)
- European semester and monitoring social outcomes member states
- European pillar of social rights

## Main policies (2)

- Circular economy
- EU Agenda on Migration
- Work-life balance for parents and carers
- General data protection regulation
- European Fund for Structural Investments (EFSI 2.0)
- European Solidarity Corps

# ACIG#2018

Annual Convention for Inclusive Growth  
2018:

"The European Pillar of Social Rights: on  
the road to implementation"

- Brussels, 27 April 2018
- <http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=88&eventId=1299&furtherEvents=yes&preview=cHJldkVtcGxQb3J0YWwhMjAxMjAyMTVwcmV2aWV3>

# European pillar of social rights

## Need for a European pillar of social rights?

- A European social strategy as next step in European integration?
- Measuring and benchmarking social performance of the €-member states in the proces of the European semester! More coordination & mutual learning on social policies by COM!

Minimum wages? Minimum income? Ensurance of unemployment benefits between MS? Labour authority, unique social security code,



# European semester (1)

## The European semester and social policy:

- (Binding!) country specific recommendations: reform labour markets, tax reform, public spending (public investments but also pressure on social spending)
- Monitoring of 5 social indicators: unemployment, youth unemployment and training opportunities, spendable budget/income of families, poverty risk and inequalities between citizens (recommendations)
- More recommendations on social policy issues to be expected!

# European semester (2)

- Home page:  
[https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/european-semester\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/european-semester_en)
- Fact sheets social performances:  
[https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/european-semester/thematic-factsheets/social-protection-and-cohesion\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/european-semester/thematic-factsheets/social-protection-and-cohesion_en)



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