

2014 - 2019

Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

EMPL COORDINATORS' MEETING

Thursday, 5 February 2015, 10.00 - 11.30 Room A1G1 (in camera), Altiero Spinelli building, Brussels

RESULTS

6.2.2015

The meeting started at 10.03 hrs and closed at 11.42 hrs. In the Chair: Ms Marita Ulvskog, 1st Vice-Chair, Acting Chair in the absence of Mr Thomas Händel.

<u>Present</u>

EPP	Mr Jeroen Lenaers, representative of the Coordinator
S&D	Ms Jutta Steinruck, Coordinator

ECR Ms Anthea McIntyre, Coordinator
ALDE Ms Marian Harkin, Coordinator
GUE/NGL Ms Rina Ronja Kari, Co-Coordinator

Ms Inês Zuber, Co-Coordinator

Greens/EFA Ms Jean Lambert, Coordinator, later replaced by Ms Terry Reintke

EFDD Ms Laura Agea, Coordinator

Apologies

EPP Mr David Casa, Coordinator

1. Chair's announcements

1.1 Interpretation

Interpretation was available in German, English and Italian and Danish.

1.2 Tabling of a Question for oral answer to the Council and to the Commission regarding the subject "Employment conditions including minimum rates of pay applicable to road transport operations" (RS)

The Coordinators

- noted that the European Commission had requested information from the German authorities, by 18 February 2015, on the application of minimum rates of pay for international road transport operations in Germany
- strongly agreed that the matter should fall under the remit of the Employment Committee and decided that the EMPL Committee shall prepare an Oral Question (in plenary)
- agreed that account should be taken of information possibly becoming available after 18 February and that the Oral Question should then be put on the agenda of the plenary session (25 March)

1.3 Reallocation of budgetary appropriations as a consequence of the investment package (ZP)

According to the Commission services in charge the investment package announced by President Juncker would have no impact on budget lines managed by DG EMPL. Should there be any change in the situation the secretariat would update the coordinators and the budget Rapporteur.

1.4 European Fund for Strategic Investments - involvement of EMPL committee (AC)

The Coordinators took note of a letter dated 4 February 2015 from Mr Buzek, Chair of the CCC, according to which the lead committees would be ECON and BUDG (Rule 55), whereas ITRE and TRAN would be associated under Rule 54. Other committees, including EMPL, would enjoy enhanced cooperation under a 'Rule 53+' arrangement (attendance of rapporteurs for opinions at shadows' meetings and trilogues regarding negotiations related to the provisions in question.)

1.5 Chair announcement regarding the timetable concerning the draft Council Decisions establishing the Employment Committee and the Social Protection Committee (RS)

The Coordinators

- noted the Council's request, dated 30 January 2015, that Parliament submit its opinions "as soon as possible and at the latest at the plenary session of 25-26 March".
- held an exchange of views, bearing in mind that rapporteur and shadow rapporteurs had been appointed swiftly, ahead of the formal adoption of the draft,
- noted that respecting the Council's request would oblige the committee to impose a timetable which would prevent EMPL members from tabling amendments
- agreed on the following timetable

Appointing of the Vice-Chair (Acting Chair) and coordinators as rapporteur / shadow rapporteurs for both reports by coordinators	22 Jan 2015
Send texts of the EMPL draft reports to translation	6 Feb
Consideration of the draft reports in Committee	26 Feb
Deadline AMs	3 March 12:00 h
Meeting of shadow rapporteurs in view of compromises	Week 12
Deadline for finalisation of negotiated compromises (includes indication of political support)	19 March cob
Pre-final voting list to be sent out	20 March
Deadline for comments regarding the pre- final voting list (oral AMs, requests for split votes)	23 March, 16h00
Adoption EMPL	24 March
Plenary	April I or April II

2. Allocation of reports and opinions

Reports

2.1. European Commission to adopt proposal to amend ESF with a view to increasing pre-financing under the Youth Employment Initiative (YEI) (PR)

Responsible: EMPL (tbc).

<u>Decision</u>: Rapporteur to be nominated by the EPP Group.

2.2. Proposal for a Council decision on guidelines for the employment policies of the Member States (AC)

Responsible: EMPL

Decision: Rapporteur to be nominated by the EFDD Group.

Opinions

2.3 Promoting youth entrepreneurship through education and training (BM)

EMPL/8/02479 2015/2006(INI)

Responsible: CULT, Rapp: Michaela Šojdrová (EPP) Opinions: EMPL, ITRE

Decision: Rapporteur to be nominated by the ECR Group.

2.4. Inquiry report on Tax Fairness in Europe (PR)

EMPL/8/02540 2015/2009(INI)

Responsible: ECON, Co-Rapp: Morten Messerschmidt (ECR) Michael Theurer (ALDE)

Opinion: EMPL

Observations: See item 2.5.

<u>Decision</u>: Await decisions regarding possible creation of a Committee of Enquiry

2.5 Bringing transparency, coordination and convergence to Corporate Tax policies in the Union (PR)

EMPL/8/02541

2015/2010(INL (legislative initiative report)

Responsible: ECON, Rapp: Anneliese Dodds (S&D) **Opinion**: EMPL, ITRE

<u>Decision:</u> Await decisions regarding possible creation of a Committee of Enquiry

2.6. Amending budget 1/2015: European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI) (KS)

EMPL/8/02479 2015/2006(INI)

Responsible: BUDG, Rapp: Eider Gardiazabal Rubial (S&D) Opinions: ECON, EMPL,

ENVI, ITRE, TRAN, REGI, CULT

Decision: No opinion

2.7 Women domestic workers and carers in the EU (MM)

Responsible: FEMM

Decision:

- 1. Request Rule 54.
- 2. Rapporteur for opinion to be appointed by GUE/NGL Group.

Documents received for information

2.8 Employment and social developments in Europe 2014 (ZP)

SWD(2015)0004

Responsible: EMPL

Decision: No action. Document may be used as a reference tool for EMPL work

Reverting an earlier allocation

2.9. Conclusion, on behalf of the European Union, of the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons who are Blind, Visually Impaired, or Otherwise Print Disabled – EMPL/8/01807 – 2014/0297(NLE) –COM(2014)0638 (MM)

<u>Decision:</u> Take note of re-allocation of file to JURI following clerical error; no opinion.

- 3. Budget 2016 Pilot Projects and Preparatory Actions (ZP)
- 3.1. Budget 2016 EMPL opinion

Decision: Rapporteur to be nominated by the EPP Group.

3.2 Pilot projects and preparatory actions (PPs and PAs)

Annex: list of PPs and PAs in the 2015 budget.

Decision:

Deadline for submission of proposals for pilot projects and preparatory actions is 6 March, 12 o'clock noon.

4. Implementation reports

Decision:

The Coordinators

- heard the proposals from Policy Department A and DG EPRS in the context of the specific proposals for implementation reports.
- instructed Policy Department A and DG EPRS to prepare their products as proposed, viz
 - o a briefing summarising the outcome of two studies related to the Employment Equality Directive (PolDepA) and an implementation assessment of the Employment Equality Directive (DG EPRS)
 - o a workshop, organised by Policy Department A, during which early experiences with the YEI and the Youth Guarantee could be discussed; as appropriate
 - the timing of the workshop could be coordinated with the report on the fresh legislative proposal on pre-financing the YEI (item 2.1. above)
 - experts from Cedefop could be associated to the workshop
 - O DG EPRS would draft a briefing note covering selected aspects of implementation of the YEI and the Youth Guarantee, taking account of the timetable of the report on the fresh legislative proposal on pre-financing the YEI (item 2.1. above)
- decided, noting the dissenting opinion of the EPP Group, to draw up an implementation report on the Employment Equality Directive; the timetable of that

report shall take account of the availability of the papers to be produced by PolDepA and DG EPRS [MM]

- noted the intention of the S&D Group to propose an Oral Question with a resolution on the pending horizontal anti-discrimination directive at the next meeting
- postponed the final decision on an implementation report on the 'Youth Employment Initiative (YEI) in the framework of the ESF and lessons to be drawn from national Youth Employment Guarantee schemes' until substantial data have become available, or, other developments suggest that such a report should be drawn up.

5. Own-initiative reports - information on waiting list

Decision:

The Coordinators

- held an exchange of views
- noted that the groups sponsoring the own-initiative reports on 'Meeting the antipoverty target in the light of the increasing household costs' and 'Workers' representation on board level in Europe' agreed to delay the start of those reports in the light of expected new data
- decided that [CO]
 - o the title of the proposal 'Reform of educational systems in Europe as a way to fight youth unemployment' should be reworded so as to avoid conflicts with other committees
 - o invited the EPP Group to make a generally acceptable proposal to this end and
 - o mandated the Chair to seek authorisation of the report with the title thus amended.

6. Social situation in Greece – suggestion for EMPL Coordinators (MK)

Decision:

The Coordinators decided to request the following:

• An update of existing EP papers on the social situation in Greece [PolDepA¹, EGOV Unit²]

¹ E.g.

- A compilation of other existing resources (e.g. papers drawn up by the Greek authorities and international organisations such as OECD, ILO, European Commission) [DG EPRS, Library]
- A fresh paper with the working title "Snapshot of the social and employment situation at the start of the new government" [external study], with a view to being updated periodically (e.g. annually (tbd)) [PolDepA]
- More detailed specifications, including the timelines, shall be agreed in a follow-up written procedure.

7. EMPL Committee studies and workshops for 2014-2015 (CO)

Decision:

The Coordinators decided to commission the following products:

- <u>Workshop</u> on ''1. Evolution of collective bargaining in Troika programme and postprogramme MS. (Proposed by GUE/NGL)''
- <u>Briefing note</u> (20-40 pages) on "2. Study on Active Inclusion: how MS are implementing the 2008 Recommendation? (Proposed by Greens/EFA)"
- <u>Briefing note</u> (11-25 pages) on ''3. ESF policies as a mitigating factor during the crisis. (Proposed by Greens/EFA)''

 $http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/note/join/2014/497760/IPOL-JOIN_NT(2014)497760_EN.pdf$

- Key macro-economic indicators for Cyprus, Greece, Portugal and Ireland September 2014: http://www.europarl.europa.eu/document/activities/cont/201409/20140922ATT89484/20140922ATT89484 EN.pdf
- A selection of economic, financial and social indicators for Euro Area Member States (2009 2015) December 2014

http://www.europarl.europa.eu/document/activities/cont/201412/20141216ATT95328/20141216ATT95328EN.pdf

- Financial Assistance to EU Member States (regularly updated): http://www.europarl.europa.eu/document/activities/cont/201411/20141124ATT93862/20141124ATT93862 EN.pdf

⁻ Policy Department CAB Briefing of October 2013 on "Youth unemployment in Greece"

⁻ Policy Department Delegation note for Greece, October 2013: "Social and employment situation in Greece"

² E.g.

⁻ An evaluation of the social and employment aspects and challenges in Greece - January 2014 (note: external expert from Greece)

8. Use of translation reserve (AC)

Decision:

The Coordinators authorised the use of half-a-page of the translation reserve for Monika Vana's draft opinion on the ECON report on "Bridging the investment gap in the EU for sustainable growth and jobs", to be used only if the ECON report, which is currently put on hold, proceeds.

9. Exchange of views with stakeholders – Green Employment Initiative (ZP)

Decision:

The Coordinators decided to invite representatives of the following organisations for an exchange of views during the presentation of the draft report in EMPL committee on 24 March.

- *ILO*
- Eurofound
- Cedefop
- Social partners

10. Exchange of views on representation of Committees in STOA Panel (CO) *Decision:*

Coordinators agreed on the following EMPL position:

• Request a third seat for EMPL on the STOA Panel, to be allocated to one of the smaller groups (possibly with a rotation of groups between the first half of the term and second half of term)

11. Motions for Resolution (Rule 133) - decisions on procedure (MM)

Annexes: texts of the motions

11.1. .B8 0079/2015 - Motion for a European Parliament resolution on measures to combat child poverty in France by Sophie Montel, Dominique Bilde

The Motion for Resolution can be found annexed to these notes.

<u>Decision:</u> Not to follow up this motion for a resolution since the EMPL own-initiative report entitled "Reducing inequalities with a special focus on child poverty" (rapp: Ines Zuber GUE/NGL) will address child poverty.

11.2. B8 0406/2014 - Motion for a European Parliament resolution on deaths in the workplace in the province of Rovigo by Bizzotto

The Motion for Resolution can be found at annex to these notes.

<u>Decision:</u> Not to follow up the matter since on Oral Question on Health and Safety at work was discussed in the plenary on 24 November and EMPL Committee will draw up an own-initiative report on the EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work 2014-2020 (rapp: Christensen)

11.3. B8 0414/2014 - Motion for a European Parliament resolution on French legislation on rest periods for road hauliers by Bizzotto

The Motion for Resolution can be found at annex to these notes.

<u>Decision:</u> Not to follow up the matter since TRAN Members raised this issue several times to the Commission. The Commission gathers information and assesses the provisions referred in the motion for a resolution. The Commission will come back with the result of the assessment to TRAN. In addition a public hearing on the road haulage market will be held on 4-5 May where this issue might be raised.

11.4. B8-0412/2014 - Motion for a European Parliament resolution on combating illegal cabotage in Europe: revision of the Commission list annexed to Regulation (EC) No 1071/2009 by Bizzotto

The Motion for Resolution can be found annexed to these notes. TRAN Committee is the main committee regarding this motion for resolution. TRAN decided not to follow-up this motion for resolution.

Decision: No action needed.

11.5. B8 0407/2014 - Motion for a European Parliament resolution on company bankruptcies and Eurostat data by Bizzotto

The Motion for Resolution can be found annexed to these notes. The main committee in charge of this motion for a resolution is ECON. ECON Coordinators might take a decision on this motion for a resolution on 10 February.

Decision: Wait for the decision of ECON.

11.6. B8-0081/2015 - Motion for a European Parliament resolution on protecting workers' acquired rights by Salvini, Borghezio, Bizzotto, Buonanno, Fontana The Motion for Resolution can be found annexed to these notes.

<u>Decision:</u> Not to follow up the matter as according to Article 153 TFEU the Union shall only support and complement the activities of the Member States in the field of social security and social protection of workers. However, the provisions adopted pursuant to this Article shall not affect the right of Member States to define the fundamental principles of their social security systems and must not significantly affect the financial equilibrium thereof. According to Article 156 the Commission shall encourage cooperation between the Member States and facilitate the coordination of their action in all social policy fields inter alia in matters relating to social security.

12. Petitions (MM)

12.1 Petition 2335/2013 by Dardan Haxhija (German) on instituting a minimum salary across the EU

The petitioner advocates the establishment of a uniform minimum salary in the EU, so that an employee may live in dignity and provide for their family. He sets out 10 arguments, which relate to quality of life, dignity, future safeguarding of pensions, ensuring healthy competition, clarity and justice, the existence of such a salary in 21 out of the 28 member states. Lastly, he stresses that the measure should be instituted in order for there to be internal consumption within the EU and a possibility for profitable commerce for enterprises in another way apart from exports. Finally, he believes the measure will also strengthen free movement of citizens to other EU member states.

PETI declared the petition admissible, forwarded it to EMPL for information and sent to the petitioner the information provided by EMPL earlier in relation to petition 1082/2013 (by Gredo Förster (German) concerning the setting of a minimum wage). PETI closed the procedure.

<u>Decision:</u> No action needed. The petition has been forwarded to EMPL for information only.

13. Points for information

13.1. Timetables

Reports:

Report for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on seafarers amending Directives 2008/94/EC, 2009/38/EC, 2002/14/EC, 98/59/EC and 2001/23/EC (Elisabeth Morin-Chartier) - update

Approved by EMPL Coordinators	22 July 2014 / 20 November 2013
Send text to Translation	18 December 2014
Consideration of draft report	21-22 January 2015

Deadline for tabling amendments	29 January 2015, noon
Consideration of AMs tabled	26 February 2015
Deadline for finalising compromise amendments	25 March, noon
Draft voting list including finalised compromises	25 March, p.m.
Deadline for split votes, separate votes, final	30 March or 31 March
indications on supporting compromises	
Final voting list	30 March or 31 March
Vote in EMPL	1 April 2015
Vote in Plenary	May I 2015

Commission Communication on a Green Employment Initiative: Tapping into the job creation potential of the green economy - COM(2014)0446 (Jean Lambert)

Approved by EMPL Coordinators	23 October 2014
Send text to Translation	3 March 2015
Consideration of draft report	24 March 2015
Deadline for tabling amendments	31 March 2015, noon
Consideration of AMs tabled	7 May 2015
Vote in EMPL	28 May 2015
Vote in Plenary	May I 2015

Opinions:

Urban dimension of EU policies (Evelyn Regner)

Approved by EMPL Coordinators	18 December 2014
Draft sent to Translation	3 February 2015
Consideration of draft	26 February 2015
Deadline for AMs (EN only)	3 March 2015, noon
Deadline for finalisation and indication of	26 March 2015, cob
political support of negotiated compromises	
Pre-final voting list to be sent out	27 March 2015, cob
Deadline for comments (oral AMs, request of	31 March 2015, 16h00
split votes/ separate votes) to the pre-final	
voting list	
Sending out of final voting list	31 March, after 16h00 asap
Vote in EMPL	1 April 2015
Vote in Plenary	5 May 2015

Family Businesses in Europe (Zdzisław Krasnod bski)

Approved by EMPL Coordinators	18 December 2014	
Send text to Translation	11 March 2015	·
Consideration of draft opinion	1 April 2015	
Deadline for tabling amendments	14 April 2015, noon	
Vote in EMPL	7 May 2015	
Vote in Plenary	TBD	

Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on the activities and supervision of institutions for occupational retirement provision (recast) (Jeroen Lenaers)

Approved by EMPL Coordinators	17 September 2014
Send text to Translation	6 February 2015
Consideration of draft opinion	5 March 2015
Deadline for tabling amendments	19 March 2015, noon
Consideration of amendments	16 April 2015
Vote in EMPL	28 May 2015
Vote in ECON	9-10 November 2015
Vote in Plenary	TBD

Resource efficiency: moving towards a circular economy (Tiziana Beghin)

Approved by EMPL Coordinators	18 December 2014
Send text to Translation	2 March 2015
Consideration of draft report	24 March 2015
Deadline for tabling amendments	31 March 2015, noon
Consideration of AMs tabled	7 May 2015
Vote in EMPL	28 May 2015
Vote in Plenary	July 2015

Draft Opinion on the review of the economic governance framework: stocktaking and challenges (Anne Sander) - update/revised

Approved by EMPL Coordinators	17 September 2014
Deadline to send to Translation	18 December 2014
Consideration of draft in committee	21/22 January 2015
Deadline for AMs	30 January 2015 at 12h00
Consideration of AMs tabled	24 March 2015
Vote in EMPL	1 April 2015
Vote in ECON	14 April 2015
Vote in Plenary	July 2015

13.2. Implementation report "on the application of Directive 2006/54/EC on the implementation of the principle of equal opportunities and equal treatment of men and women in matters of employment and occupation"

Responsible: FEMM Opinion: EMPL (Blinkeviciute)

The two rapporteurs, Ms Blinkeviciute and Ms Záborská reached an agreement on the cooperation of the two committees, which can be found annexed to these notes, amongst the documents for information.

13.3. Endorsement of the UNCRPD mechanism - letter from President Schulz

The President's letter can be found annexed to these notes, amongst the documents for information.

13.4. Appointment of the new Governor of the EBRD for the European Union – letter from the Secretary General of the Commission

The letter can be found annexed to these notes, amongst the documents for information.

13.4. President Juncker's reply concerning Commissioner Thyssen's involvement in the Commission's thematic ad-hoc group on Jobs, Growth and Investment

The letter can be found annexed to these notes, amongst the documents for information.

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14. Date of next Coordinators' meeting

Monday, 2 March, 17:00 to 18:30 hrs, ASP 3G2.