

## The European Pillar of Social Rights: Impact and Future Perspectives

24 April 2024

- online event, Zoom -

### CONTEXT

Social Europe is back on the political agenda, given the falling household purchasing power, prior austerity policies and a change in the European discourse framework. Seven years after being announced, the European Pillar of Social Rights (EPSR) has become the reference point for social policy projects at the EU level.

Although, slowly but steadily, the social situation in the EU is improving, there are still major divergences. In the member states, the EPSR and the accompanying Social Scoreboard are used in an irregular manner. Social investments and reforms financed by the Recovery and Resilience Facility are only partially targeted at social deficits.

In the future, climate change, the green and digital transitions, demographic changes and geopolitical instability are expected to generate new challenges to our economies, societies and welfare states. To prepare for these challenges and to mitigate their impact on EU citizens, the further implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights is key.

Building on the European Pillar of Social Rights, the Belgian Presidency of the Council of the EU set out to equip the Union with an ambitious social agenda to promote a European society that is more inclusive, gender equal and fair for all EU citizens. The High-Level Conference on the European Pillar of Social Rights (15-16 April 2024) aims to adopt an inter-institutional Declaration signed by the EU institutions, social partners and civil society, with the goal to prepare the future social agenda for the period 2024-2029 and to reaffirm EPSR as the compass of EU social policy for the years to come.

### MAIN DISCUSSION TOPICS

- The social agenda for the period 2024-2029.
- Labour market - a gender equal access and fair working conditions.
- Access to social protection for all in a changing labour market: challenges and solutions.
- Labour market policies for a just transition: the right to upskilling and reskilling.

The event is organised within the EIR's online debates series



## AGENDA

10:45 - 11:00 (\*) Online registration of participants

11:00 - 11:40 Opening session

### *Welcome Address*

Oana-Mihaela Mocanu, Director General, European Institute of Romania

### *Official Interventions*

Ewoud ROES, Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of Belgium in Romania

H.E. Cosmin BOIANGIU, Ambassador, Executive Director of the European Labour Authority

Bogdan MOLDOVEANU, Deputy Director, Internal Market and Sectoral Policies Directorate, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Romania

11:40 - 13:00 **The European Pillar of Social Rights: Impact and Future Perspectives**

Maarten KEUNE, PhD, Full Professor Social Security and Labour Relations, University of Amsterdam, Netherlands

Laura RAYNER, Senior Policy Analyst, European Policy Centre, Belgium

Raluca DIMITRIU, PhD, Professor, Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Romania

Dragoş ADĂSCĂLIŢEI, Research Officer, Employment Unit, EUROFOUND

*Comments, questions and answers*

**Moderator:** Eliza VAŞ, Coordinator of the Studies Unit, European Institute of Romania

(\*) Bucharest time

*The event will be registered audio-video and live streamed on*

*<https://www.facebook.com/euroinstromania>*

*Working language: English*