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

01.10.2014
9.30 a.m. - 5.15 p.m.
Room VM3 – 2nd floor

Conference:
Co-organised by the Social Economy Category, the SOC and the INT Sections of the EESC
EESC – Van Maerlant building, Rue Van Maerlant 2, 1040 Brussels

European Economic and Social Committee
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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"

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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
- 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 (Entrepreunership 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 mutuel Groupe MGEN, France - Julie Savary, Head of Mission, Cabinet of the Presidency
- The Wales Council for Voluntary Action, Communities Investment Fund - Mathew Brown, Manager
- Coöperatieve Esbeek: an example of a Rural Alliance, the Netherlands - Wiet van Meel, (LLM) 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