

epr

european platform for rehabilitation



*Building capacity for excellence in service
provision for people with disabilities*

A background image showing a busy city street with a large crowd of people walking. A pedestrian crossing sign is visible on the right side. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue banner.

WELCOME

POLICY FLASH WEBINAR

5 SEPTEMBER 2019



EU POLICY FLASH WEBINAR



- **AGENDA:**
- European Semester update: Country-specific Recommendations
- European Disability Strategy Public Consultation
- Updates on EU meetings such as the High Level Group on Disability, EU Campaigns and latest EPR resources
- Wrap Up



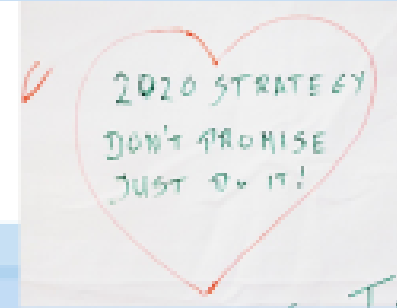


EU POLICY FLASH WEBINAR

EUROPEAN SEMESTER UPDATE: COUNTRY-SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS



EUROPEAN SEMESTER SPRING PACKAGE



>> REMINDER <<

>> What is EUROPE 2020

- strategy on growth and jobs (smart, sustainable & inclusive)
- targets: employment (+75%), education, poverty (-20 mill)

>> What is the EUROPEAN SEMESTER – main tool for its implementation= dialogue between the European Commission and Member States.

AGS presented in Tallinn sets topics for Country Specific Recommendations issued now for the year to come.





EUROPEAN SEMESTER: **SPRING PACKAGE**

COUNTRY SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS

What's new on the 2019 CSRs?*

- Increased focus on social issues: need to support inclusion & advance in meeting the principles of the European Pillar of Social Rights.
- Main messages are still based on the economy: growth & stability.



↑ Growing inequalities in accessing social protection & access to services in the EU

- In-work poverty & poverty faced by disadvantaged groups is acknowledged.
- All countries in the EU received recommendations to limit the public spending, 16 countries receive recommendations to decrease poverty.
- Health, care and social issues are proposed to be corrected from a “reform” perspective instead of advancing social rights.

*EAPN European Anti Poverty Network CSRs analysis have been consulted to provide with this information



EUROPEAN SEMESTER: **SPRING PACKAGE**

COUNTRY SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS

What's new on the 2019 CSRs?

- Inclusive labour markets and quality jobs are still not prioritised on the recommendations. References are directly about getting people into employment.
- Positive proposals on inclusiveness and quality of education.
- Priority given to education, training and research, whilst investment in key services, particularly social services and social protection, is not consistently underlined.
- Approaches to public services & social protection are made from a perspective of 'cost cutting' and efficiency, rather than looking at how to ensure adequacy and universal access to key public services/social protection across the life cycle.



EUROPEAN SEMESTER: SPRING PACKAGE

The Netherlands 2018

- Reduce the incentives to use **temporary contracts** and self-employed without employees, while promoting adequate social protection for the self-employed, and tackle self-employment.
- Create conditions to promote **higher wage growth**, respecting the role of the social partners.

2019

- Put in place measures to **increase wages** of employees. Increase pension coverage to make it fairer.
- Employment growth based on self-employment and temporary employment. Government taken measures to **push permanent contracts** in 2020. Measures to pay employees in case of illness during a period of 2 years will no longer be obligatory. Active inclusion in employment is a challenge.
- Need to increase investment on digital and technical skills, education & training to help disadvante groups join employment.





EUROPEAN SEMESTER: SPRING PACKAGE

Portugal 2019

- Improve digital skills of population and make adult learning more relevant to the needs of the labour market. Increase number of higher graduates.
- Improve adequacy of social safety nets.
- Pension system at risk due to ageing. Income inequality remains high.





EUROPEAN SEMESTER: SPRING PACKAGE

Greece 2018

Reform program Troika

2019

- Priority focus is investment needs on research and development, education, skills, employability, health, and the renewal of urban areas.
- 70% of unemployed in 2018 were LTU particularly women and young people
- Promote quality and inclusive education & training
- Investment in education & training. Improvement of the education system with better records of skills achievements needed. Make vocational training and long life training more attractive.
- Investments should focus on enhancing access to inclusive, affordable and high quality social services, as well as on developing day-care centres. Supporting the most deprived and promoting the social integration of children at risk of poverty, of persons with disabilities, of migrants and refugees.





EUROPEAN SEMESTER: SPRING PACKAGE

Latvia 2019

- Reduce taxes for low incomers
- Address social exclusion by improving minimum income schemes, establishing pensions for old age & income for PWD (not revised since 2006). Increase quality and efficiency of education & training in particular of low skilled workers and jobseekers including participation VET and adult learning. The poverty risk among the elderly and the people with disabilities is relatively high and increasing due to benefits not keeping pace with wage growth. 40.7% of PWD are at risk of poverty.
- Improve access to education; improvement of the VET curriculum is positively ongoing.
- Increase the accessibility and cost-effectiveness of health system. Current low public spending on healthcare and unhealthy lifestyle habits persist. Important health professionals shortage like nurses.
- Affordable housing.





EUROPEAN SEMESTER: SPRING PACKAGE

Spain 2018

- Ensure that employment and social services have the capacity to provide effective support for jobseekers, better cooperation with employers.
- Improve family support.
- Reduce early school leaving and regional disparities in educational outcomes, in particular by better supporting students and teachers.
- Mitigate existing skills mismatches between business and education.

2019

- Preserve pensions sustainability.
- Ensure that employment & social services have the capacity to provide effective support. Transition towards open-ended contracts & simplifying hiring incentives. Gender gap is wide.
- Improve support for families, reduce early school leaving, improve educational outcomes and mitigate regional disparity. Increase cooperation between businesses and education. Support to LTU is stronger.
- Significant gap in the coverage of dependent people dependent.
- Align national unemployment assistance within the regions.
- Mitigate existing skills mismatches between business and education.



EUROPEAN DISABILITY STRATEGY 2010 -2020 PUBLIC CONSULTATION

The European Disability Strategy is the EU's main policy document in the field of Disability.

Aim: To set out objectives and actions for putting in place disability policy at European level.

Public Consultation: The Strategy ends in 2020 → Time to evaluate the changes and improvement it made on PWD

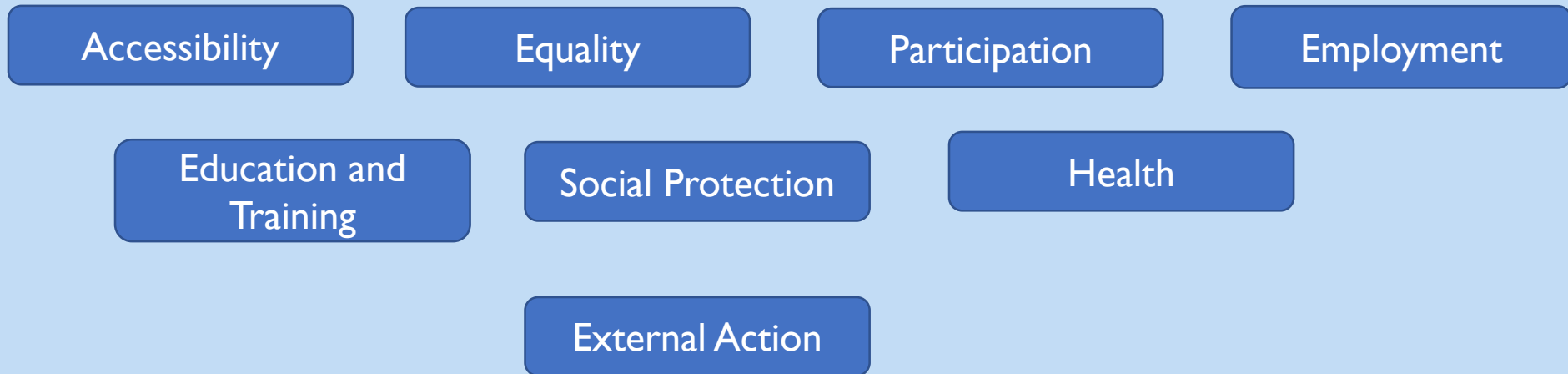
Objective: - Collect feedback, evidence and views from a broad range of actors to assess the Strategy efficiency, relevance and added value.

- Prepare and shape future European policies on Disability.



EUROPEAN DISABILITY STRATEGY 2010 -2020 PUBLIC CONSULTATION

To proceed with the assessment  8 Core Areas of Action of the Strategy



>> Where did the Strategy make a greater impact?

EUROPEAN DISABILITY STRATEGY 2010 -2020 PUBLIC CONSULTATION

- Success/Positive Impact: Improving Accessibility
- Unsuccessful on improving Employment of PWD
- Do you experience a gap between EU local level and national level on areas of importance of the Strategy?

Identified as most important area of action for the future is EQUALITY

Look for more opportunities of legislation within the next strategy and better implementation of the UN CRPD

- **What do you, EPR members, think?**
Let's have a look!





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EUROPEAN DISABILITY STRATEGY 2010 -2020

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Taking stock from EPR members work at the Centre Coordinators Meeting in Tallinn, June 2019

- **EMPLOYMENT**

Focus on a labour inclusion agenda

Support to increase the quality of sheltered work

ESF and ERDF funds more oriented to vocational training really oriented to employment especially on new employment niches

Support employers and pwd on their needs - user centered approach more pilot projects and exchange of experiences

Support social enterprises hiring people with disabilities

Quota system for pwd in an enterprise will help achieving results in more participation more employment and more accessibility





EU POLICY FLASH WEBINAR EUROPEAN DISABILITY STRATEGY 2010 -2020 PUBLIC CONSULTATION



Taking stock from EPR members work at the Centre Coordinators Meeting in Tallinn, June 2019

- **EDUCATION**

VET opportunities for people with learning disabilities- bad integration rates should not make this group get lost

Distance learning platforms

- **DATA**

Clarify what data is missing

Target indicators of pwd are needed





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EUROPEAN DISABILITY STRATEGY 2010 -2020

PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Taking stock from EPR members work at the Centre Coordinators Meeting in Tallinn, June 2019

- **OTHERS**

Mobility and Accessibility

More mobility for PWD – accessibility

Disability vs social exclusion more social cohesion and social economy

Standards in new technology –opportunities for pwd and

Support social enterprises hiring people with disabilities

Support independent living

Extend services

Pay more attention when planning buildings

Hold MS accountable





EUROPEAN DISABILITY STRATEGY 2010 -2020 PUBLIC CONSULTATION

- Models that promote the employment of people with disabilities
- Supporting people and young people in particular in the transition from education to employment or independent living
- Education and vocational training programmes that engage employers and mainstream the needs of persons with disabilities.
- The European Commission should take into account the needs of people with disabilities in all skills related initiatives.
- To facilitate the development and improvement of community-based services throughout investment in vocational training, training of staff
- Clear and efficient monitoring mechanism shall accompany the new Strategy





EUROPEAN DISABILITY STRATEGY 2010 -2020 PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Deliverables of the evaluation:

- ❖ October 2019 -Summary with results of consultations published in October 2019
- ❖ January 2020- Final report answering all evaluation questions
- ❖ June 2020 European Commission Staff Working Document: Key deliverable = outcome of the evaluation and policy proposals for future June 2020





EU POLICY FLASH WEBINAR

ANNUAL CONVENTION FOR INCLUSIVE GROWTH BRUSSELS 20TH MAY

- Event held every year in Brussels by the European Commission to bring civil society organisations and policymakers to discuss how to achieve inclusive growth.
- Promotes exchange of practices and mutual learning.

EPR Members attending in 2019:

Work&Inclusion; Theotokos and Fundación ONCE

Would you like to share some feedback from the day?





ANNUAL CONVENTION FOR INCLUSIVE GROWTH BRUSSELS 20TH MAY

KEY MESSAGES on **current social issues in the EU** from the day:

- Inequalities are rising
- All social policies should pay attention to mental and physical health across the life cycle
- Future of work and quality education must be inclusive
- Cross sector collaboration to improve social policies in EU private and public sector
- Inclusive life long learning- place learners always at the centre of education
- Improve the use of EU Funds for inclusive growth





POLICY UPDATE MEETINGS HIGH LEVEL GROUP ON DISABILITY BRUSSELS 14TH MAY

- **Objective:** foster close cooperation between national governments, European Institutions and the civil society (also non for profits like EPR)
- EPR has a seat at this High Level Group – possibility of presenting research, projects, etc.
- ❖ Implementation of the UN CRPD focused on: Bulgaria, Spain and Norway.
- Countries recently reviewed by the UN CRPD Committee





POLICY UPDATE

HIGH LEVEL GROUP ON DISABILITY

BRUSSELS 14TH MAY

- **SPAIN:** high involvement of stakeholders in reporting to UNCRPD
 - ➔ called to move away from institutional care
 - ➔ recommendations focused on UN CRPD art 17 (protecting the integrity of the person) and 24 (education)
- **NORWAY:** *UN Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities* visit in October 2019
 - Some processes too slow or poorly developed:
 - ➔ Transition from medical to human rights model
 - ➔ Gap of quality services at local level between rural and urban areas

POLICY UPDATE



The EU helps fight discrimination at work #EUvsDiscrimination
EU Awareness Raising Campaign on Anti Discrimination in Employment
Launched on May 7th ongoing till March 2020
Online with a brochure, leaflet in 24 languages, website and social media
toolkit on
www.europa.eu/social/Euvsdiscrimination
9 awareness raising workshops national public and private employers
Topic: Reasonable accommodation in the work place





SPOTLIGHT ON EPR RESOURCES

UPDATE ON THE LATEST PUBLICATIONS & TOOLS

• PUBLICATIONS



- **Toolkit** on *Partnerships with Employers*
- **Analytical Paper** on *Employment of People with Disabilities*
- **Mini Study** on *Good Practices on Staff Engagement, Motivation and Retention*
- **Research Study** on *Employment Models within the Social Economy and their role in including People with Disabilities in the Labour Market.*

• TOOLS



- e – **Learning Modules** *Quality of Life & Disability*
Personalised Learning Pathways
- Online Forum**





WHAT'S NEXT ON EPR?

Webinar on Homecare -25th September

Webinar on Autism and Social Inclusion – 1 October

Workshop for Directors, Athens - 10-11 October

NARE, Supported Employment, Rennes, France, 15 October Webinar
on Happiness in the Workplace 13 November

Quality Social Services Conference, Brussels, 20 -21 November

Public Affairs, CC & GA, Brussels, 2-3 December