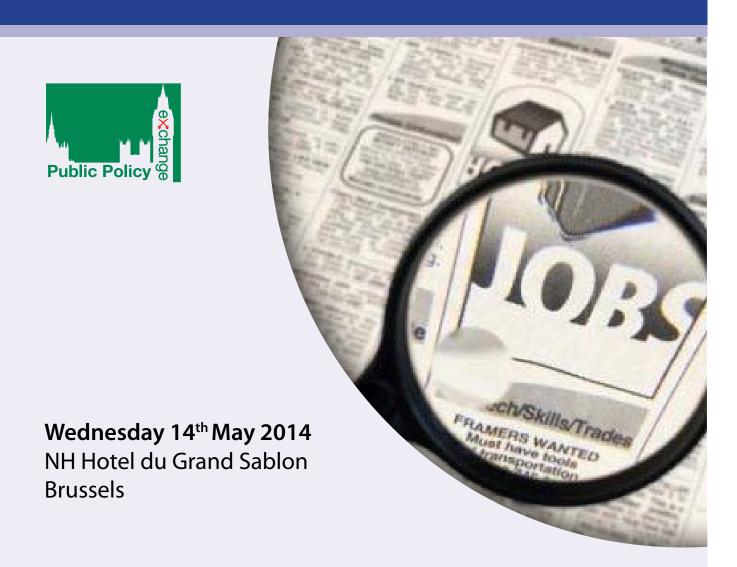
Employment and Social Inclusion in Europe:

Developing Skills and Supporting Disadvantaged Groups





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Overview

In the face of the recent economic downturn, the labour market and social conditions remain extremely challenging in Europe. In October 2013, *Eurostat* estimated that over 26 million people were unemployed in the EU-28, of whom over 19 million were in the Eurozone. Boosting employment in the EU is, therefore, one of the main priorities of policy makers.

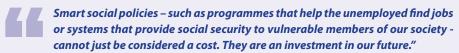
The European Employment Strategy (EES) seeks to promote a life-cycle approach to work, lifelong learning and improved support for those seeking a job, as well as ensuring equal opportunities. For its actions to be effective, the EU must invest in jobs and people and improve the functioning of its labour market by addressing skills mismatches and segmentation.

In line with the Europe 2020 Strategy, the 'Social Investment Package' seeks to promote social investment across Member States to prevent any form of exclusion or discrimination of vulnerable groups and to ensure their participation in society. High unemployment rates among young people and seniors should also be addressed through the implementation of active inclusion policies at national level.

This timely International Symposium provides a valuable opportunity to discuss the challenges behind current unemployment trends in the EU. Delegates will have the opportunity to examine initiatives and innovative projects that have been implemented to tackle unemployment and social exclusion at national and EU levels. This Symposium will also allow delegates to exchange best practices and discuss solutions to boost employment in the EU.



- László Andor, EU Commissioner responsible for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion,
 October 2013



- Guy Ryder, ILO Director General, February 2013

Venue and Accommodation

NH Hotel Grand Sablon, Rue Bodenbroek 2/4. B-1000 Brussels Belgium



Why Attend?

- Explore solutions to encourage jobs creation in the EU
- Discuss social investment and innovative approaches to improve social inclusion
- Assess trends and causes for skills mismatch and its impact on the labour market
- Share best practices in the field of innovative and experimental policymaking and implementation

Who Should Attend?

- Ministries of Employment and Social Affairs
- Social Services
- · Employment Agencies
- · Research Institutes
- Social Innovation Centres
- National Departments for Social and Family Affairs
- Lifelong Learning Institutes
- Social Advisers
- Active Ageing Organisations
- · Voluntary Organisations
- Local Authorities
- Employment and Social Inclusion Institutes
- · Labour Economy Research Centres
- · Labour Market Institutes
- Academics
- PhD Candidates
- European Social Organisational Science Consultancies
- European Employment Associations
- Social Partners
- Pension Organisations
- · Associations of Social Enterprises
- Sheltered Employment and Labour Integration Organisations
- Physical and Social Rehabilitation Centres
- Disabled People's Rehabilitation and Employment Unions
- Vocational Training Centres
- Innovation and Personal Development Centres
- · Special Employment Unions

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Programme

09:15	Registration and Morning Refreshments
10:00	Chair's Welcome and Opening Remarks
10:10	Tackling Social Exclusion Through a Multi-level Approach - Supporting Disadvantaged Group to Increase Life and Job Opportunities • Multiplying Actions at Different Policy Levels - Housing, Health Care, Education and Social Support • Evaluating and Identifying Shortcomings in Existing Social Policies • Preventing Financial Exclusion and Discrimination of Vulnerable Groups • Developing Partnerships with Civil Society to Improve Cohesion Policies • Progress Made in Achieving the Europe 2020 Employment Strategy
10:40	First Round of Discussions
11:10	Morning Coffee Break
11:30	Promoting Social Investment in the EU Discussing the 'Social Investment Package' and its Challenges Improving Social and Health Services in Member States Social Experiments and Innovative Solutions Implementing Active Inclusion Policies - Ensuring Young People, Seniors and Vulnerable Groups' Participation in Society Recommendations and Best Practices
12:00	Second Round of Discussions
40.00	
12:30	Networking Lunch
13:30	Addressing Skills Mismatches - Exploring Trends and Causes Understanding the Costs of Skills Mismatch to Jobseekers, Employers and Society Fostering Better Skills and Turning Them into Better Jobs Finding Innovative Solutions and Anticipating Mismatches: Aligning Education and Training with Labour Market Needs Policy Recommendations
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For further information please contact:

Parvin Madahar on +44 (0) 20 3137 8630

or email parvin.madahar@publicpolicyexchange.co.uk

Enquiries: 0845 606 1535

Event Details

Date: Wednesday 14th May 2014
Time: 10:00am – 4:30pm
Venue: NH Hotel du Grand Sablon,

Brussels



Speakers include

- Egbert Holthuis, Head of Unit, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, European Commission (confirmed)
- ✓ Vincenzo Spiezia, Senior Economist, International Institute for Labour Studies, International Labour Organization (confirmed)
- Glenda Quintini, Senior Economist,
 Directorate for Employment Labour
 and Social Affairs, OECD (confirmed)
- ✓ Barbara Helfferich, Director, European Anti Poverty Network (confirmed)
- Dr. Thomas Osburg, Director Europe Corporate Affairs, Intel GmbH (confirmed)
- John Halloran, Chief Executive of the European Social Network (ESN) (confirmed)
- Martin Jefflén, President, EUROCADRES (confirmed)
- Konstantinos Pouliakas, Expert Research and Policy Analysis, Cedefop European Centre for the Development
 of Vocational Training (confirmed)
- Aurélie Duprés, Policy officer, European Network of Social Integration Enterprises (ENSIE) (confirmed)