



MALTA EU 2017
PARLIAMENTARY DIMENSION

Meeting of the
Chairpersons of the
Committees on Social Affairs

Draft Programme

23 – 24 MARCH 2017
MALTA

Thursday, 23 March 2017

- 15:00 – 18:30** Arrival of delegations and registration at the hotels
- 18:30** Departure by bus from the hotels to the dinner venue
- 19:00** Dinner hosted by Hon. Anthony Agius Decelis, *Chairman of the Social Affairs Committee*
- Venue: Esplora, Interactive Science Centre, Villa Bighi, Kalkara*
- 21:30** Return to the hotels by bus

Friday, 24 March 2017

08:15 Departure by bus from the conference hotels to the Grand Hotel Excelsior, Great Siege Road, Floriana

08:30 Arrival of participants and registration for the meeting

09:00 **Opening of the meeting**

Welcome address by Hon. Angelo Farrugia, *Speaker of the House of Representatives*

Introductory remarks by Hon. Anthony Agius Decelis, *Chairman of the Social Affairs Committee*

Speech by Ms Marianne Thyssen, *European Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs, Skills and Labour Mobility* (tbc)

09:30 **Poverty and Social Exclusion: Working towards a more inclusive Europe**

Keynote Speaker: Mr Thomas Handel, *Chairperson of the EP Committee on Employment and Social Affairs*

Speaker: Ms Sian Jones, *Policy Coordinator, European Anti-Poverty Network*

Debate

10:30 **Coffee Break**

11:00 **What makes an individual socially excluded? Different perspectives and exchange of best practices**

Speaker: Prof. Angela Abela, *Department of Family Studies, University of Malta*

Speaker: Ms Jana Hainsworth, *President, Social Platform*

Speaker: Mr Silvan Agius, *Director Human Rights and Integration, Ministry for Social Dialogue, Consumer Affairs and Civil Liberties*

Speaker: Mr Alfonso Lara Montero, *Policy Director, European Social Network*

Debate

13:00 **Official Photo**

Lunch

14:30 **Taking stock of the policies of Europe 2020 and the way forward**

Keynote Speaker: Mr Thomas Dominique, *Chairperson, Social Protection Committee*

Speaker: Dr Barbara Kauffmann, *Director for Employment and Social Governance, European Commission*

Speaker: Mr Ioannis Dimitrakopoulos, *Head of Equality and Citizens' Rights Department, European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights*

Debate

16:15 **Concluding remarks by the Chairperson of the Social Affairs Committee**

16:30 **Departure of delegations**