



# **Working together for youth employment - From education to the workplace: a global challenge**

**Joint seminar of the European parliament and EU Agencies  
Cedefop, ETF, EU-OSHA, Eurofound**

**30 June 2011 - 9:00-12:30  
European Parliament – Room: JAN 6Q2 - Brussels**

## **Programme**

**08:30 Registration of participants**

**9:00-9:15 WELCOME AND OPENING**

**Pervenche Berès**, Chair of the Employment and Social Affairs Committee

**Juan Menéndez-Valdés**, Director, Eurofound – on behalf of agencies' directors

**Chairperson: Pervenche Berès**, Chair of the Employment and Social Affairs Committee

**9:20-9:40 KEYNOTE SPEECH**

**Jan Trzuszczński**, Director General, Directorate-General for Education and Culture for Education, European Commission

## 9:40-10:30 THEMATIC SESSION

*Young workers in Europe have been facing since a long time many difficulties in accessing the labour market and in particular finding a quality and secure employment, which should allow them to start a decent and independent life. Moreover, the financial and economic crisis has worsened their employment prospects significantly. Close attention is given by policy makers in Europe to the link between youth unemployment and social exclusion and its long-term destabilizing effects on society at large. Across Europe, specific initiatives by governments or social partners have been implemented such as developing work opportunities or policies aimed at increasing young people's employability and entry to the labour markets. However, some groups of young people are particularly disadvantaged: those who have experienced lengthy period of unemployment, young people with low levels of qualifications and educational achievement, those with health problems or disabilities, those from minority ethnic groups as well as young migrant workers.*

*Against this background, the EU agencies under the remit of the Employment and Social Affairs Committee, present a multi dimensional perspective of youth employment related challenges today in Europe and its neighbourhood. Agencies' complementary research findings presentations focus on smooth transition from education to workplace, lifelong guidance for young people at risk, labour market participation of young, working conditions and safe and quality jobs for young workers, the NEETs (not in employment, education or training) phenomenon in Europe and its economic and social costs, the active inclusion of disadvantaged young and the global/international dimension of youth unemployment. These contributions set the platform for the panel discussion with EU policy makers and participants.*

**Chairperson: Pervenche Berès**, Chair of the Employment and Social Affairs Committee

### **What does it take to become employable? Guiding young people into the labour market**

**Pascaline Descy**, Head of Research and Policy Analysis, Cedefop

### **'No work in sight?' The role of governments and social partners in fostering labour market inclusion of young people**

**Massimiliano Mascherini**, Research manager, European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions – Eurofound

### **“Safe start” – Occupational safety and health from school to work: Findings and recommendations**

**Sarah Copsey**, Project manager, Chair of EU-OSHA Contact Group on OSH and education, European Agency for Safety and Health at Work - EU-OSHA

### **The global dimension of youth employment with special focus on northern Africa**

**Anastasia Fetsi**, Head of Thematic Expertise Department, European Training Foundation, ETF

**10:30-12:00 PANEL DISCUSSION**

**Moderator: Emilie Turunen**, Member of the European Parliament, Greens/EFA

Agencies' representatives:

**Christian Lettmayr**, Acting director, Cedefop

**Juan Menéndez-Valdés**, Director, Eurofound

**Madlen Serban**, Director, ETF

**Jukka Takala**, Director, EU-OSHA

Panellists

**Ria Oomen-Ruijten**, Member of the European Parliament, EPP

**Marian Harkin**, Member of the European Parliament, ALDE

**Jean-Louis de Brouwer**, Director for Europe 2020: Employment policies – Directorate General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion

**Pierre Mairesse**, Director for Lifelong learning, horizontal policy issues and EU 2020 strategy, Directorate General for Education and Culture

**Stephen D'Haeseleer** – Social Affairs Director, BusinessEurope

**Juliane Bir**, Youth Officer and ETUC advisor on Social Dialogue, ETUC

**Luca Scarpiello**, Vice-President, European Youth Forum

**Panel discussion followed by an open exchange with participants**

**11:50-12:10 Special addresses**

**Saïd Aïdi**, Minister of Vocational Training and Employment, Tunisia

**Ahmad Hassan El Borai**, Minister of Manpower, Egypt (tbc)

**12:10-12:25 CLOSING ADDRESS**

**László Andor** – Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion (tbc)

**12:25-12:30 CONCLUSION AND CLOSING**

**Pervenche Berès**, Chair of the Employment and Social Affairs Committee

**12:30-13:30 Reception**