



Council of the  
European Union

Brussels, 27 March 2015  
(OR. en)

7002/15  
ADD 1

PV/CONS 11  
SOC 162  
EMPL 82  
SAN 63  
CONSOM 47

## DRAFT MINUTES

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Subject: **3374th** meeting of the Council of the European Union (**EMPLOYMENT, SOCIAL POLICY, HEALTH AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS**) held in Brussels on 9 March 2015

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## PUBLIC DELIBERATION ITEMS<sup>1</sup>

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"B" ITEMS (doc. 6520/15 OJ/CONS 11 SOC 95 EMPL 45 SAN 51 CONSOM 37)

### **NON-LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES - PUBLIC DEBATES**

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<sup>1</sup> Deliberations on Union legislative acts (Article 16(8) of the Treaty on European Union), other deliberations open to the public and public debates (Article 8 of the Council's Rules of Procedure).

## **NON-LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES - PUBLIC DEBATES**

*(In accordance with Article 8(2) of the Council's Rules of Procedure [proposed by the Presidency])*

### **3. European Semester 2015: Contribution to the European Council (Brussels, 19-20 March 2015)**

- Policy debate  
6138/15 SOC 65 EMPL 26 ECOFIN 92 EDUC 23

The Council held a policy debate on priorities for actions in the areas of employment and social policies. Ministers broadly welcomed the three pillar approach of the Annual Growth Survey (AGS) to better focus on and tackle current concerns. Ministers concurred that the modifications to the European Semester are positive, in particular the timing of the Country Reports, which gives more time for a wider stakeholder consultation.

Special emphasis was given to creating quality jobs and the inclusiveness of labour markets regarding vulnerable groups (women, youth, older workers and long-term unemployed).

The need for investment in people and skills in the context of the digital economy was specifically highlighted as well as improving the effectiveness and efficiency of social protection systems. The role and importance of social partners' involvement was again underlined.

Mutual learning and dissemination of best practices was praised for being beneficial to all.

#### **a) Priorities for action in the areas of employment and social policies: political guidance in 2015**

- i) Draft Council conclusions on the 2015 Annual Growth Survey and Joint Employment report: political guidance on employment and social policies  
6147/15 SOC 72 EMPL 33 ECOFIN 99 EDUC 30  
+ REV 1 (lv)
  - ii) Draft Joint Employment report  
6142/15 SOC 68 EMPL 29 ECOFIN 95 EDUC 26 JEUN 11
- Adoption

The Council adopted the conclusions on the 2015 Annual Growth survey and Joint employment report: political guidance on employment and social policies. The final version is to be found in doc. 7007/15.

The Council adopted the Joint Employment report. The final version is to be found in doc. 7006/15.

**b) Social Europe: Aiming for inclusive growth - 2014 Annual report of the SPC on the social situation in the EU**

- Endorsement of key messages  
6194/15 SOC 78  
+ ADD 1

The Council endorsed the key messages as set out in doc. 6194/15.

**4. Financing arrangements and the effectiveness and efficiency of resources allocation: Report jointly prepared by the SPC and the Commission services**

- Endorsement of key messages  
6140/15 SOC 66 EMPL 27 ECOFIN93 SAN 44  
+ COR 1

The Council endorsed the key messages as set out in doc. 6140/15 + COR 1.

**5. Draft Council conclusions on moving towards more inclusive labour markets**

- Adoption  
6182/15 SOC 75 EMPL 36 ECOFIN 102 EDUC 32

The Council adopted the conclusions on inclusive labour markets. The final version is to be found in doc. 7017/15.

**6. Draft Council conclusions on the EU Strategic Framework on Health and Safety at Work 2014-2020: Adapting to new challenges**

- Adoption  
6535/15 SOC 98 EMPL 46  
+ REV 1 (el)

The Council adopted the conclusions. The final version is to be found in doc. 7013/15.

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