



Programme

Employment and the Churches in Europe

Brussels, 27-29 February 2008

Church and Society Commission of the
Conference of European Churches (CSC of
CEC)
Rue Joseph II, 174
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Churches' Commission for
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Wednesday 27.2.2008

14:00 Opening of the Conference.

Welcome by Partner Organisations

14:30 General Introduction into EU Employment Policies

Dr. Sigried Caspar, European Commission

Discussion

16:00 Coffee & Tea

16:30 Working groups on the issues of the Dialogue Seminar

- Flexicurity from a values perspective
- Supporting people in a modernised labour market
- Migration

18.00 Plenary session

Preparation of the Dialogue Seminar

19:30 Dinner

Thursday, 28 February 2008

DIALOGUE SEMINAR

« Flexicurity » from a values perspective

Bureau of European Policy Advisors (BEPA), European Commission
Church and Society Commission of the Conference of European Churches (CSC of CEC)
Commission of the Bishops' Conferences of the European Community (COMECE)

***European Commission
Berlaymont
Jean Monnet Room– 1st floor
Rue de la Loi 200
1040 Brussels***

9:00-9:40 Opening and Welcome

Prof. Dr. Graça Carvalho, Principal Adviser, BEPA, European Commission

Mr Ján Figel', Member of the European Commission responsible for Education, Training, Culture and Youth

Mr Stefan Lunte, Deputy Secretary General of COMECE

Rev. Rüdiger Noll, Director, Church & Society Commission of the Conference of European Churches

9:40-11:10 Keeping the balance between flexibility and security

Mr Vladimír Špidla, Member of the European Commission responsible for Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities

Prof. Dr. Gerhard Wegner, Director, Sozialwissenschaftliches Institut der Evangelischen Kirche in Deutschland

Mgr. Dr. Ludwig Schwarz SDB, Bishop of Linz

Plenary discussion

Moderation: Rev. Prof. Dr. Erny Gillen, President of Caritas Europa

11:10-11:30 Coffee/Tea Break

11:30-13:00 **Supporting people in a modernised labour market: The contribution of the churches**

Panel discussion with short introductory statements on

Professional qualifications and training as a priority of the Flexicurity Model

PhDr. Mgr. Margita Marková, General Secretary, Kolpingwerk, Slovakia

Precarious work situations

Rev. Juha Mattila, Industrial Chaplain, Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland/European Contact Group

Pathways into the labour market for people experiencing social exclusion

Mr Jorge Nuño Mayer, Caritas Europa Spain

Supporting migrants in a changing labour market

Fr. Christian Popescu, Orthodox Church in the Czech Lands and Slovakia/Churches' Commission for Migrants in Europe

EESC's Opinion on Flexicurity

Mr Thomas Janson, Rapporteur on Flexicurity in the European Economic and Social Committee

Common Principles of Flexicurity

Mr Armindo Silva, Acting Director for Social Dialogue, Social Rights, Working Conditions and Adaptation to Change, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities, European Commission

Meeting the Challenges of Modernised Labour Markets

Mr Jacek Protasiewicz, MEP

Moderation: Ms Franca Di Lecce, Director of the Refugee and Migrant Service of the Waldensian Church, Italy

13.00 **Lunch**

14:00-15:30 **Meeting the challenges of a modernised labour market: Observations**

Ms Božica Matič, Employment and Social Attaché, Permanent Representation of the Republic of Slovenia to the EU

Mr Jørgen Rønne, BUSINESSEUROPE (UNICE), Confederation of Danish Employers – DA Brussels office

Mr Maarten Keune, European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC)

Reactions from the floor

Conclusions:

Ms Doris Peschke, General Secretary, Churches' Commission for Migrants in Europe

Ignace Berten, Director, Espaces - Spiritualities, cultures and society in Europe

Mr Frederic Lerais, Adviser BEPA, European Commission

Moderation: Mr Jorge César das Neves, Adviser BEPA, European Commission

Friday, 29 February 2008

9:00 Current Employment Policies: Challenges for the Churches

Rev. Dr. Dieter Heidtmann, Church & Society Commission of the Conference of European Churches

Rev. Trevor Dixon, The Methodist Church in Industry, Business and Commerce (MIBIC), Great Britain

Rev. Esther Kuhn-Luz & Rev. Klaus-Peter Spohn-Logé, European Contact Group/ Kirchlicher Dienst in der Arbeitswelt

New Initiatives on Labour Migration: Challenges for the Churches

Doris Peschke, Secretary General, Churches' Commission for Migrants in Europe (CCME)

Plenary discussion

10:30 Working Groups

Project proposals for the European cooperation

12:00 Plenary Session

13.00 Closing of the Conference

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