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LITHUANIAN EU PRESIDENCY PRIORITIES

Social Platform Networking Conference in Vilnius – May 23, 2013

Minister of Social Security and Labour
Algimanta Pabedinskienė



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OVERARCHING PRIORITIES OF THE LITHUANIAN PRESIDENCY

- **CREDIBLE EUROPE**

The Lithuanian Presidency will strive to make progress towards sounder public finances in the EU and to strengthen the ground for financial stability, which is required to fully restore the EU's economic credibility.

- **GROWING EUROPE**

The Lithuanian Presidency will build on the Europe 2020 agenda and the European Semester, reinforced by stronger Single Market policy, as well as the effective implementation of the Compact for Growth and Jobs.

- **OPEN EUROPE**

The Lithuanian Presidency will make steps to strengthen the EU as a global model of openness and security.



PRIORITIES IN THE FIELD OF EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL POLICY

- ❖ **Better job opportunities** - focus on *youth*;
- ❖ **Better protection of workers** (including migrant workers);
- ❖ **Strengthening of social dimension**;
- ❖ **De facto equal rights between men and women and antidiscrimination.**



BETTER JOB OPPORTUNITIES – FOCUS ON YOUTH

- ❖ The Lithuanian Presidency will continue efforts to increase youth employment, seeking for the proper preparation to provide *Youth Guarantees*.
- ❖ Lithuania will organize discussion with ministers and social partners and prepare Council declaration regarding *European Alliance for Apprenticeships*.
- ❖ Lithuania will make efforts in order to strengthen social integration of young people, *in particular NEET*.



BETTER PROTECTION OF WORKERS (INCLUDING MIGRANT WORKERS)

- ❖ One of the priority legislative dossier in this field is the *Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the European Globalization Adjustment Fund (2014-2020)*.
- ❖ The Lithuanian Presidency will also seek to achieve agreement with the Parliament concerning the proposals for the *Enforcement directive on posting* and the *Pensions portability directive*.
- ❖ The aim of the Presidency will be the adoption of *the Directive on enforcement of rights of EU migrant workers and members of their families* in relation to the fundamental principle of free movement of workers, which aims at eliminating discrimination on the grounds of nationality.



STRENGTHENING OF SOCIAL DIMENSION

- ❖ Recently launched Social Investment Package will be one of the priority areas to be analysed. Connection to country specific recommendations which should already reflect the social investment approach
- ❖ Ministerial discussions on one of the SIP aspects – Investing in children: breaking the cycle of disadvantage
- ❖ Strengthening of social dimension of EMU



DE FACTO EQUAL RIGHTS BETWEEN MEN AND WOMEN AND ANTIDISCRIMINATION

- ❖ *Council conclusions on the review of the indicators of the Beijing Platform for Action area of concern: Institutional mechanisms – adoption at December EPSCO Council.*
- ❖ *Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on improving the gender balance among non-executive directors of companies listed on stock exchanges and related measures – our aim will be to achieve general approach at EPSCO Council.*
- ❖ *Council Directive on Anti-discrimination directive – we will seek a broader consensus on certain provisions of the draft directive.*
- ❖ *Council recommendation on enhancing the effectiveness of measures for Roma integration – adoption at December EPSCO Council.*



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EPSCO: FOCUS ON PEOPLE

- ❖ Informal EPSCO in Vilnius, Lithuania, July 11th-12th.
- ❖ EPSCO in Luxembourg, October 15th.
- ❖ EPSCO in Brussels, December 9th-10th.



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Informal EPSCO

July 11th-12th VILNIUS, LITHUANIA

- ❖ **Meeting with Social Platform:** Commission Recommendation “Investing in Children: Breaking the Cycle of Disadvantage” as a part of Social Investment Package
- ❖ **Meeting with Social Partners:** European Alliance for Apprenticeships
- ❖ **Workshops**
 - I: Efficiency and Effectiveness of the Social Investments
 - II: Implementation of the European Alliance for Apprenticeships
 - III: Wage Setting Mechanisms and Economic Growth
- ❖ **Plenary session:** Social Dimension of EMU



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OTHER MEETINGS IN LITHUANIA (I)

JUNE

Meeting of Directors General for Industrial Relations: 13th – 14th.

SEPTEMBER

EU Youth Conference and Meeting of Directors General for Youth: 9th – 12th;

Meeting of High Level Group on Gender Mainstreaming: 11th – 12th ;

Gender Equality Conference with Possible Participation of Ministers

Responsible for Gender Equality: 13th ;

Joint Informal Social Protection Committee and Employment Committee

Meeting: 18th – 19th .



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OTHER MEETINGS IN LITHUANIA (II)

OCTOBER

Mutual Information System on Social Protection (MISSOC) Network Meeting: 17th – 18th ;

Eastern Partnership Youth Forum: 23ed-24th

NOVEMBER

EURES Working Party: 11th –13th;

Meeting of Senior Labour Inspectors Committee (Thematic Day and Plenary Meeting) 14th –15th;

European Social Fund (ESF) Conference: 14th – 15th;

Youth Council: 26th.

DECEMBER

Meeting of the Heads of Public Employment Service: 9th –10th ;

Meeting of Administrative Commission for the Coordination of Social Security Systems: 18th -19th.



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Thank you for your attention!