



**SEIMAS OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA
COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN AFFAIRS**

DECISION

**ON STRENGTHENING THE SOCIAL DIMENSION OF THE ECONOMIC AND
MONETARY UNION**

Vilnius

12 February 2014 No 100-S-2

The Committee on European Affairs of the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania,

after hearing the briefing by the Ministry of Social Security and Labour of the Republic of Lithuania on the social dimension of the Economic and Monetary Union;

in light of the Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council entitled “Strengthening the social dimension of the Economic and Monetary Union” (COM(2013) 690 final) (hereinafter referred to as the Communication);

having regard to the European Council conclusions of 24/25 October 2013 and of 19/20 December 2013 on the social dimension of the Economic and Monetary Union,

welcomes the on-going discussions on the strengthening of the social dimension of the Economic and Monetary Union, including its strengthening in non-euro area Member States, as it is important for the whole European Union;

supports the efforts of the European Commission to take action, aimed at determining, as early and as precisely as possible, emerging employment and social problems and searching for efficient methods of monitoring, managing and controlling of the social policy to generate added value while fully respecting national competences;

endorses the Commission’s proposal to introduce a scoreboard of key employment and social indicators of Member States and considers that gender, social and age differences should be taken into account while referring to the scoreboard;

notes that the scoreboard of key employment and social indicators should be used not only as a tool of analysis but also as a basis for planning and implementing reforms in Member States and drafting country-specific recommendations issued in the framework of the European Semester;

agrees that good governance of the Economic and Monetary Union can be effective and have a positive impact only if it actively engages all stakeholders and authorised bodies, thus national Parliaments should also be involved and should engage in the *ex-ante* and *ex post* procedures of the European Semester, thereby ensuring greater democratic legitimacy, besides other areas, in the area of social dimension, and

decides to bring the abovementioned Communication and the Draft Joint Employment Report accompanying the Communication from the Commission on Annual Growth Survey 2014 (COM(2013) 801 final) to the focus of specialised committees of the Seimas involved in the parliamentary scrutiny of the European Semester and to recommend these committees to assess,

within their competences, the aspects of the social dimension in view of interconnectivity and interdependence of the economic and financial policy areas they cover by engaging social partners in discussions on matters relating to the European Semester.

Gediminas Kirkilas

Chair