

"Together to create new growth"
**"Social entrepreneurship & social economy: Developing a European
ecosystem to unlock social innovation, growth and jobs"**
Conference on 18 November 2011 - Brussels

Speaker: Gert Jan Koopman



CURRICULUM VITAE

Since 1 November 2010, Gert Jan Koopman is **Deputy Director General for State Aids** at the European Commission's **Directorate General for Competition** (DG COMP). In this capacity he is responsible for the Commission's control of State Aids and the co-ordination of the 1000 State Aid cases managed by thirteen units in DG COMP.

Prior to this Gert Jan Koopman was Director at the European Commission's Directorate-General for Economic and Financial Affairs (DG ECFIN) which he joined on 1 May 2008. In this capacity, he led the work on the structural reform agenda and provided economic advice to Commission services. Mr Koopman was also a member of the Commission's Impact Assessment Board which vets all Impact Assessments produced by Commission departments.

He joined DG ECFIN from the Commission's Directorate General for Enterprise and Industry where he was Director for the "Industrial policy and economic reforms" from 1 January 2005. He worked on Industrial Policy and Better Regulation – notably the management of the Commission's Action Programme to reduce Administrative Burdens by 25% by 2012.

From 1995 to 2004, Gert Jan Koopman advised Commissioner Neil Kinnock, initially as a Member of his Cabinet with responsibility for Transport and later as Head of Cabinet when Mr Kinnock was Vice-President for Administrative Reform.

He worked as a Researcher and Policy adviser for the University of Utrecht and the CPB Netherlands Bureau for Economic Policy Analysis before joining the European Commission's Directorate General for Economic and Financial Affairs in 1991.

**POSSIBILITIES THAT THE CURRENT STATE AID FRAMEWORK OFFERS TO
SOCIAL BUSINESSES**

As Deputy Director General in DG Competition, Gert-Jan Koopman is responsible for State aid policy. A major project in 2011 is the reform of the State aid rules for **Services of General Economic Interest (SGEI)**. Many of those services have a social nature or are provided by socially-driven companies. It is one of the core objectives of the review to introduce a more differentiated and proportionate approach, which should be reflected in particular in a simplification for **local and social services**. This simplification should facilitate compliance with State aid rules, while at the same time the overall objective of the review is to boost the contribution that SGEI can make to the wider EU economic recovery.