



# **Social Situation Monitor**

## **Seminar on the effects of the crisis on young people**

**23 May 2014**

**Hôtel Léopold - Rue du Luxembourg 35 - 1050 Bruxelles**

Since the onset of the crisis, young people throughout the EU have been adversely affected disproportionately compared to other age groups. Only a third of young people aged 15-24 currently have a job, and many of these are on a temporary or part-time basis. Although in half of the Member States, there has been a reduction in the unemployment figures for young people over the recent past, in most cases it has been relatively small and considerable differences continue to exist across the EU. Along with high unemployment, the proportion of young people Not in Employment, Education or Training (NEET) has risen sharply over the crisis period. The adverse effects of the crisis on young people extend beyond their labour market situation to their risk of poverty and ability to live autonomously. As a result of their worsening labour market position, young people have been the subject of much political attention at the EU level, leading to the Youth Guarantee being implemented in all Member States.

The purpose of the seminar is to examine particular aspects of the situation of young people across the EU in order to throw light on measures which might help both to tackle the problems they face and to prevent them from worsening. The seminar will focus in particular on:

- the difficulties faced by young people entering the labour market and the potential scarring effects resulting from these;
- the extent to which young people have become less autonomous as a result of the crisis;
- the policy measures that have been taken, or which could potentially be taken, to help young people, from both an employment and social perspective.

The presentations will combine national studies in individual countries (France, the UK, Spain and Greece) and comparative analysis.

This seminar is part of a series of biannual seminars organised by the Social Situation Monitor (the successor to the Social Situation Observatory) which is supported by the European Commission and composed of Applica in Brussels, the Athens University of Economics and Business, the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research in Vienna, ISER at the University of Essex in the UK and Tárki in Budapest.

## Final Agenda

- 9.00-9.30 Registration and welcome
- 9.30-9.40 Introduction** (European Commission)
- 9.40-12.40 Session 1: Entry into the labour market and autonomy of young people in times of crisis**  
(Chair: Floor Van Houdt, DG Education and Culture of the European Commission)
- 9.40-10.00 *Youth labour market performance in Spain and its determinants*  
Andrés Fuentes, OECD
- 10.00-10.20 Discussion
- 10.20-10.40 *A scarred generation? French evidence on young people entering a tough labour market*  
Mathilde Gaini, French Ministry of Labour
- 10.40-11.00 Discussion
- 11.00-11.20 Coffee-break**
- 11.20-11.40 *The economic impact of the recession on Greek youth*  
Ioannis Cholezas, Centre of Planning and Economic Research
- 11.40-12.00 Discussion
- 12.00-12.20 *Young adults' living arrangements: The impact of economic uncertainty on leaving and returning home in the UK*  
Ann Berrington, University of Southampton
- 12.20-12.40 Discussion
- 12.40-14.00 Lunch**
- 14.00-16.00 Session 2: Policy measures to support young people**  
(Chair: Marco Fantini, DG Employment of the European Commission)
- 14.00-14.20 *Investing in youth: Social and employment policies for young people*  
Stéphane Carcillo, OECD
- 14.20-14.40 Discussion
- 14.40-15.00 *Youth Unemployment in Europe: What to do about it?*  
Werner Eichhorst, Institute for the Study of Labour (IZA)
- 15.00-15.20 Discussion
- 15.20-15.40 *Policies to combat youth unemployment. No one-fit-all*  
Bart Cockx, University of Ghent
- 15.40-16.00 Discussion
- 16.00-16.15 Closing remarks** (European Commission)

## Speakers

**Ann Berrington** is professor of demography and social statistics at the University of Southampton and co-leads the Family Strand of research at the ESRC Centre for Population Change. She is an expert on changing patterns of household formation in the UK and their implications for policy. She leads a number of research projects including one examining the housing pathways of young adults and a second investigating the impact of economic uncertainty on childbearing. Underlying much of this substantive work is the application of sophisticated quantitative methods to large scale, complex survey data.

**Stéphane Carcillo** is a senior economist in the Directorate for Employment, Labour, and Social Affairs at OECD (Social Policy Division) and a research fellow in the Department of Economics at Sciences Po (Paris) and at IZA Bonn. He was previously an advisor to the French Minister for the Economy, Finance and Employment and an economist in the Fiscal Affairs Department at the IMF. His research fields are applied and theoretical labour economics.

**Ioannis Cholezas** is a fellow researcher at the Centre of Planning and Economic Research (KEPE). Before joining KEPE in 2008, he worked as a visiting lecturer for the University of Peloponnese, Economics Department, for two years. He has published a number of studies on education, earnings inequality, migration and labour markets in general and has contributed to several reports and studies.

**Bart Cockx** is a research professor at Ghent University. He is also an associate of various research institutes, such as IZA in Bonn, CESifo in Munich and IRES (UC Louvain) in Louvain-la-Neuve. His major research interests are labour economics and micro-econometrics. He is a specialist in the evaluation of labour market policy and micro-econometric evaluation methods. He has published in journals such as *The Review of Economics and Statistics*, *The Economic Journal*, *The Journal of The Royal Statistical Society: Series A (Statistics in Society)* and *The Journal of Public Economics*.

**Werner Eichhorst** joined the Institute for the Study of Labour (IZA) as research associate in July 2005 and became senior research associate in February 2006, deputy director of Labour Policy in April 2007 and director of Labour Policy Europe in January 2014. His main research area is the comparative analysis of labour market institutions and performance as well as the political economy of labour market reform strategies. He is also responsible for international and European policy-oriented research activities.

**Andrés Fuentes** has been an economist at the OECD since 2003 and in charge of the Estonia-Germany desk of the OECD's Economics Department since October 2012. Between 2007 and 2012 he was in charge of the Spain-Switzerland desk. He has produced a number of papers on labour market performance, education and tax-systems and in particular on the economic situation of Spain during the crisis.

**Mathilde Gaini** is statistician-economist at the French National Institute of Statistics and Economics Studies in the French Ministry of Labour (Professional integration and Training department). Her work focuses on youth integration into the labour market and changes in wage inequality over time.