What I want is for Europe to have a social triple-A rating: that is just as important as an economic and financial triple-A rating.

Jean-Claude Juncker, Statement in the European Parliament plenary session, 22 October 2014
RENEWED EUROPEAN SOCIAL POLICY

Policy coordination
Social Acquis
Social Dialogue
Funding
Mainstreaming

#SocialRights
TWO YEARS OF DELIVERY AND PROGRESS

POLICY COORDINATION
• Social priorities at heart of European Semester
• Social Impact Assessment for Stability Programmes

SOCIAL ACQUIS
• European Pillar of Social Rights
• Posting of Workers Directive
• European Accessibility Act

SOCIAL DIALOGUE
• A New Start for European Social Dialogue

FUNDING
• New Skills Agenda
• Frontloading of €1 billion for Youth Guarantee
• Extra €2 billion for 2017-2020

MAINSTREAMING
• Investment Plan for Europe, Energy Union, Digital Single Market, trade, tax.
SOCIAL PRIORITIES AT THE HEART OF EUROPE'S ECONOMIC GOVERNANCE

Greater focus on:
+ Employment
+ Social performance

Guidelines to Member States to deliver on:
+ Quality jobs
+ Skills
+ Poverty reduction

Social Impact Assessment of Stability Programmes
From establishing and renewing the EU social acquis to…

- a holistic review of present and future needs for the whole EU
- a greater focus on the challenges of the Economic and Monetary Union

The Pillar should become the reference framework to screen the employment and social performance of participating Member States
EUROPEAN PILLAR OF SOCIAL RIGHTS: 3 PRIORITIES

- Equal opportunities and access to the labour market
- Fair working conditions
- Adequate and sustainable social protection
TOWARDS A DEEPER AND FAIRER EUROPEAN LABOUR MARKET
WHY A REFORM OF THE POSTING OF WORKERS DIRECTIVE?

In 2014 there were **1.92 million** posted workers in the EU

**44%** increase in posted workers between **2010 and 2014**

On average **0.7%** of total employees are posted workers

The concentration of posted workers in some sectors is high

**43%** of the total posted workers work in the construction sector

In 14 Member States, **40% to 80% of the posted workers** come from neighbouring countries
NEW START FOR EUROPEAN SOCIAL DIALOGUE

The four main goals of European Social Dialogue which the social partners agreed in 2015:

- greater involvement of the social partners in the European Semester
- stronger emphasis on capacity building of national social partners
- strengthened involvement of social partners in EU policy-making
- clearer relationship between social partners' agreements and the Better Regulation agenda
A NEW APPROACH TO TACKLING YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT: THE YOUTH GUARANTEE

The Guarantee is helping to tackle youth unemployment

1.4 million less young unemployed in the EU since 2013

900,000 less young people not in employment, education or training (NEETs)

9 million young people took up an offer of employment, education, traineeship or apprenticeship
ACTIONS TO HELP EQUIP PEOPLE IN EUROPE WITH BETTER SKILLS

A NEW SKILLS AGENDA FOR EUROPE

Links between employment and skills in the EU-28

- % of employers who encounter difficulties in finding employees with the right skills: 40%
  - ECS (Eurofound)/2013
- % of companies financing training to their employees: 66%
  - CVTS (Eurostat) / 2010
- Employment rate (%) of low skilled young people: 53%
  - LFS (Eurostat)/2014
- Employment rate (%) of high skilled young people: 80%
  - LFS (Eurostat)/2015
OBJECTIVE:

the Skills Guarantee will help low-skilled adults to acquire a minimum level of literacy, numeracy and digital skills.

DELIVERY: adults will receive:

- a skills assessment, giving them the chance to identify their existing skills and their upskilling needs;
- a tailored learning offer, adapted to the specific needs of the individual and of local labour markets;
- opportunities for the validation and recognition of the skills they acquire.
EUROPEAN ACCESSIBILITY ACT

Disabled and older people will enjoy more choice and lower prices for the following products and services:

- smartphones
- digital TV equipment and broadcasts
- telephone services and equipment
- air, bus, rail and waterborne transport
- banking services
- e-books
- e-commerce
- computers and operating systems
- ATMs, ticketing and check-in machines
SOCIAL CONSIDERATIONS ACROSS EU POLICIES

**Investment Plan**
- 100,000 new jobs created
- 300,000 SMEs have new loans

**Energy Union**
Helping to **cut people's energy bills**
Access to essential social services even in event of crisis

**Fair Taxation**
Multiple proposals to fight Corporate Tax Avoidance

**Digital Single Market**
Ensure **free WiFi access**
All citizens can connect to the Internet
HOW THE EU BUDGET SUPPORTS A SOCIAL EUROPE

European Social Fund: €86.4 billion for 2014-20

- Sustainable & Quality Employment
- Educational & Vocational Training
- Social Inclusion
- Technical Assistance
- Efficient Public Administration
FUTURE PRIORITIES: COMMISSION WORK PROGRAMME 2017

• Youth Initiative to boost jobs, growth and investment:
  o Youth Guarantee + Youth Employment Initiative
  o New Skills Agenda
  o European Solidarity Corps

• Proposal for European Pillar of Social Rights
• Strengthening of Economic and Monetary Union
• Phase two of European Fund for Strategic Investments
• Strengthening of trade defence instruments
• Fairer taxation of companies in the Internal Market

Plus:
• Promotion of work-life balance for working parents
• Evaluation of the health and safety legal framework