WHY DO WE NEED THE EUROPEAN LABOUR AUTHORITY?

- 16 million Europeans now live and work in a Member State other than that of their nationality. That is twice as many as 10 years ago.
- Every day, 1.7 million Europeans commute to another Member State and millions travel across Europe for business or family reasons.
- Citizens and business need to access information easily and be sure about opportunities and rights at home and abroad. National authorities need to cooperate seamlessly.

WHAT WILL THE AUTHORITY DO?

- Strengthen administrative cooperation and mutual trust between national authorities, including by solving possible disputes
- Provide one-stop shops for citizens, business and public authorities by pooling existing tools for cross-border mobility (EURES — the European job mobility portal, EU social security coordination, European Health Insurance Card, EU blue card, etc.)
- Fight abuse and organise joint control by national inspectorates
- Build on existing agencies and structures to manage better joint activities, for instance in terms of skills forecasting, health and safety at work, and the management of restructuring and tackling undeclared work

TOWARDS FAIR LABOUR MOBILITY: A EUROPEAN LABOUR AUTHORITY

‘We should make sure that all EU rules on labour mobility are enforced in a fair, simple and effective way by a new European inspection and enforcement body. It seems absurd to have a Banking Authority to police banking standards, but no common Labour Authority for our Single Market’.

European Commission President Juncker, State of the Union Address, 13 September 2017
Agencies and structures active in the field include:

- European Foundation for the Improvement of Working and Living Conditions
- European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training
- European Agency for Safety and Health at Work
- European Training Foundation
- European Job Mobility Portal
- European Platform tackling undeclared work

Other recent Commission initiatives to ensure fair mobility include:

- Reform of the Posting of Workers Directive, implementing the principle of the same pay for the same work at the same place;
- Modernisation of EU rules for the coordination of social security systems, to facilitate labour mobility, ensure fairness for those who move and for taxpayers, and provide better tools for cooperation between Member State authorities;
- The launch of the Electronic System of Social Security Information, which allows for a quicker and easier exchange of mobile workers’ social security information between Member States.

NEXT STEPS

The Commission will come forward with a proposal for a European Labour Authority and a European Social Security Number in Spring 2018.