



# A strong social Europe for just transitions

January 2020  
#SocialRights



*“The transition towards a climate neutral Europe, fit for the digital age, must be just and inclusive. No one should be left behind.”*

*President Ursula von der Leyen*

*“Europe is going through a momentous shift. As we go through the green and digital transitions, as well as an ageing population, the Commission wants to ensure that people remain centre stage and that the economy works for them.”*

*Valdis Dombrovskis, Executive Vice-President for an Economy that Works for People*



*“Europe’s innovative and inclusive social market economy must be about people: providing them with quality jobs that pay an adequate wage.”*

*Nicolas Schmit, Commissioner for Jobs and Social Rights*

## What are some of today’s challenges?



Only 1 out of 25 low skilled workers benefits from life-long learning



Youth unemployment in European regions ranges from 4% to 62%



The gender pay gap stands at 16%



Only 50% of persons with disabilities that want to work have a job



1 in 4 children are at risk of poverty or social exclusion



40% of cancers are preventable

## Time for action

### KEY COMMISSION INITIATIVES FOR A STRONG SOCIAL EUROPE

First Stage Consultation to Social Partners on Minimum Wages

Sustainable Europe Investment Plan – European Green Deal Investment Plan

Just Transition Fund

European Gender Equality Strategy, followed by binding pay transparency measures

Update Skills Agenda for Europe

Industrial Strategy

SMEs Strategy

Demography Report

Reinforce the Youth Guarantee

Updated Digital Education Action Plan

Platform Work Summit

European Education Area

Digital Services Act

Green Paper On Ageing

Europe's Beating Cancer Plan

Initiative on Roma Equality and Inclusion

European Unemployment Re-insurance Scheme

Child Guarantee

Action plan for the Social Economy

Strategy for Disability

Long Term Vision for Rural Areas

### CONSULTATIONS FOR THE ACTION PLAN FOR EUROPEAN PILLAR OF SOCIAL RIGHTS

Commission begins consulting with stakeholders

Consultation period ends

Action plan to implement the European Pillar of Social Rights (early 2021)

Q1  
2020

Q2  
2020

Q3  
2020

Q4  
2020

2021

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## Fair minimum wages for workers in the EU



241.5 million people are employed in the EU



The number of people in employment in the EU is at a record high. But many working people still struggle to make ends meet.



President von der Leyen has promised to ensure that workers in our Union have a fair minimum wage that should allow for a decent living wherever they work.



The Commission wants to hear from social partners – businesses and trade unions – on what action is needed in the EU.



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