

Reducing inequalities in Europe Bratislava 17th February 2017

While increasing inequalities and lack of social progress deepens the distrust towards the political and economic elite, today, more than ever, we, the European citizens need to give ourselves the means to reconnect with the European project and to reinvent **our** Europe of the future.

It is the purpose of the "9th of May Movement" (M9M) launched by emblematic personalities representing different spheres of the civil society and politics throughout the European Union. The M9M met the leaders of the European institutions and heads of states with a proposition of an ambitious and pragmatic roadmap aiming at protecting citizens, improving concretely the lives of all EU citizens, reducing inequalities and promoting smart and fair growth that fosters innovation and jobs for the future.

The Commission President Jean Claude Juncker announced a pillar of social rights in his state of the Union speech in September 2015, as part of the commission's 2016 work program. The rapporteur of the committee on employment and social affairs, Maria João Rodrigues, signatory of the M9M, submitted a report on the 19th of January 2017 to the European Parliament, which consequently adopted a resolution, which calls for concrete proposals and legislative initiatives until March 2017.

In the light of this resolution, we would like to assess with you where Europe stands today on the realisation of a pillar of social rights and economic integration, what has been done during the last months and what should be done in the future.

14h: Introductory Speeches

Mr. Dusan Chrenek, Head of the European Commission Representation,
Mr. Christophe Léonzi, French Ambassador to Slovakia

Roundtables:

Each roundtable will be presided by an expert on the topic.

1st Topic for roundtable discussions: Universal and adequate social protection of workers

- **Decent working conditions in all forms of employment**
 - Should the existing minimum standards be extended and applied to all sorts of employment including 'atypical' or 'non-standard' forms of working?
- **European social security card**
- **Universal access to timely, good quality and affordable health care**
 - Should these issues be dealt with on European level?

Plenary Discussion: drawing up assessment and recommendations together

2nd Topic : Economic Governance: The digital revolution and workers protection

- **Protection of workers intermediated by digital platforms**
 - Status and social protection
 - Ensuring adequate contributions
- **Replacement of workers by machines/robots/automats**
 - How can we counteract the loss of employment perpetrated by the replacement of workers by machines and robots?

Plenary Discussion: drawing up assessment and recommendations together