THE FUTURE OF THE EUROPEAN SOCIAL FUND PLUS

THURSDAY, 1 OCTOBER 2026
9:00 – 13:00

MEETING ROOM:
ANTALL 4Q1

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, BRUSSELS

EMPL ICM

Agenda

Interparliamentary Committee Meeting

Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT - NATIONAL PARLIAMENTS

European Parliament

With the support of the Directorate for Relations with National Parliaments

Order of business

Thursday, 1 October 2026

Welcoming words by:

- **Li Andersson**, Chair of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

Opening remarks by:

- **Mario Nava**, Director General EMPL, European Commission

10:00–11:30 Session I – How can the future ESF+ make a stronger and more tangible contribution to achieving the EU's employment and social objectives: quality jobs, adult learning and poverty reduction

Keynote speech by **Lisa Schüler**, Caritas Europa

Remarks by:

- **David Casa**, EMPL Co-Rapporteur on establishing the European Social Fund as part of the National and Regional Partnership Plan set out in Regulation (EU) [...] [NRPPlan] establishing conditions for the implementation of the Union support to quality employment, skills and social inclusion for the period from 2028 to 2034
- Representative of National Parliament 1
- Representative of National Parliament 2

Followed by a discussion

11:30–13:00 Session II – What should be the main priorities of ESF+ during the period 2028–2034 to address emerging social and economic challenges?

Keynote speech by **Patrick Mahieu**, Vice-President of the French Food Bank Federation and Chair of the Northern Food Banks

Remarks by:

- **Marit Maij**, EMPL Co-Rapporteur on establishing the European Social Fund as part of the National and Regional Partnership Plan set out in Regulation (EU) [...] [NRPPlan] establishing conditions for the implementation of the Union support to quality employment, skills and social inclusion for the period from 2028 to 2034
- **Katharina Schenk**, Member of German Bundesrat and Thuringian Minister of Social, Health, Work and Family, Member of the German Bundesrat
- Representative of National Parliament 2

Followed by a discussion

Closing remarks by:

- **Li Andersson**, Chair of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

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The hearing can be followed online: http://www.europarl.europa.eu/ep-live