

Programme

**"20 Years after the Fall of the Wall:
Employment conditions in Europe – Challenges and Perspectives"
30th of November 2009, 11 – 16 h**

Federal Press Office, Information-Centre, Dorotheenstraße 84, D-10117 Berlin

10.30-11: Registration

11.00 -11.20 h: Welcome

Ulrich Wilhelm, State Secretary
Federal Press Office

Bernd Hüttemann, Secretary General,
Network European Movement Germany

11.20 - 11.30 Introduction of the project

Stefan Schäfers,
King Baudouin Foundation

Henning Banthien
Member of the Executive Board, IFOK

11.30 -11.50: Key note: "Flexicurity and Working Conditions"

Isabella Biletta, Industrial Relations & Workplace Developments
European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions (Dublin)

11.50 - 13.00: Panel debate

"Better working conditions in Europe through a harmonised labour code?"

Recommendations made by citizens: *"The EU should create the same working conditions and rules for all EU citizens based on a harmonised Labour Code, harmonising working conditions for employees, right and obligations for employers."*

Elisabeth Schroedter MEP (D), Vice-Chairwoman Committee on Employment and Social Affairs, European Parliament

Marie Bilkova (CZ), Chief Advisor of Deputy Minister of Finance
Former Director General of Czech Public Employment Services

Dirk Bergrath (D), International Department
German Metal Workers Union

Vanda Pecjak (SLO), Vice-President
Association of Employers of Slovenia (ZDS)

Moderator:

Henning Banthien, Member of the Executive Board,
IFOK

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13.00 - 14.00: Lunch

14.00 - 14.20: Key note

Gerald Rosskogler (A), Political Department
European Commission, Representation in Germany

14.20 - 15.30 h: Panel debate

"How to achieve equal pay for equal work?"

Recommendation made by citizens: *The harmonised labour code should include the right to decent salaries and working hours, and it should include the principle of equal pay for equal work between men and women as well as workers from other EU Member States*

Katarzyna Bekasiak (PL), Businesswoman
Past President Polish Federation of Business & Professional Women

Dr. Katharina Erdmenger (D), Member
European Women Lawyer's Association

Dr. Hans-Peter Klös (D), Director Education and Labour Market Policy
Cologne Institute for Economic Research (IW)

Moderator:

Henning Banthien, Member of the Executive Board,
IFOK

16.00: END

About ECC and the Regional Debate

The regional conferences are part of the European Citizens' Consultations 2009 which are an ongoing process to further develop a citizen participation and consultation mechanisms. The aim is to develop a more structured and long-term citizen involvement in EU decision making process.

Some 250,000 European citizens have visited the online fora launched in all 27 EU Member States in December 2008 to generate public debate and ideas on what role the Union can play in shaping our economic and social future in a globalised world. These ideas were fed into the national conferences held in each Member State in March 2009, at which a total of 1,600 citizens - chosen at random using professional opinion research institutes - debated this issue and agreed on 15 recommendations for action at EU level.

On May 10-11 citizens handed over and discussed these recommendations with top EU policy-makers, including the Presidents of the European Commission and Parliament and the EU Presidency at the first European Citizens' Summit. The 15 recommendations which were developed on the Economic and Social Future of Europe will now be discussed at this regional debate involving key stakeholders from Germany, Austria, Slovenia, the Czech Republic and Poland.

This conference is the fourth of five regional conferences which brings together experts, stakeholders, representatives of the European institutions and newly elected MEPs with different social, professional backgrounds together to share their experience, feelings and visions of this and other issues with a focus towards the solutions that could be realised at European level, in order to change the recommendation made by citizens during the 1st phase of the ECC project into political realities.

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