

Minutes  
Plenary Session I  
16.30 - 18.30

**Europe 2020 from a Centre-Right Perspective: fighting poverty, creating jobs and confidence (between stakeholders) in Europe societies in a time of budgetary constraints  
(Working Group 2)**

**Chairwoman: Corien Wortmann-Kool MEP, Vice-Chairwoman of the EPP Group in the EP, Chairwoman of the EIN 'Economy and Environment' Working Group** opened the meeting at 16.40. She said that we need a stronger Europe and that we can learn and make the best from the crises putting into place efficient mechanisms. MEP Corien Wortmann-Kool welcomed all the participants.

**David Webber, Director of Studies, Public Advice International Foundation** said that everybody wants good services and we have to treat all the groups equally without prejudices and therefore we need good and cheaper services. He underlined as well the importance of manufacturing and of the SME's for the EU economy as it provides the majority of the employment. He continued saying that we need to balance the risks and benefits of the globalisation and said that as the EU countries has lost some production fields such as pharmaceutical industry we need to invest in new technologies. He highlighted also the role of the public procurement in an efficient use of our resources.

**Discussion:** MEP Harbour (ECR Group)

**Michèle Debonneuil, International Statistical Institute, Member of the CERC**  
**Michèle Debonneuil** focused on the production model especially in the care sector for elderly and people with difficulties. She said that this sector needs a transformation towards a profit based sector creating new employment as many of these services are nowadays provided for free. Mrs **Debonneuil** said as well that in the past productivity depended on the speed of the production but that nowadays with new technologies everything changed and that we need to link goods, people and access to the information together. She encouraged transformation of some traditionally public sectors to private sectors as the opposition between goods and services had no sense.

**Discussion:** Silva Peneda (former member EPP Group), MEP Zehler (EPP)

**Dirk Hudig, Director FIPRA International, Chairman of the EIN 'Social Market**  
Mr **Dirk Hudig** said that EU social systems could be endangered because many people retire before they need burdening social systems twice, should this trend continue the pressing on the young generation could be huge. He stressed that self employment in some countries represents 1/3 and need to be further encouraged. He reminded as well the role of the SME's as they provide 60% of all employment.

**Discussion:** Antonio Glees (University of Buckingham), Lei Falber (EPP senior Union)

**Monica de Oriol e Icaza, Secot**

Called for free responsible and creative adults fight against red tape and new employment. She concluded saying that man principal resource is man.

**Csaba Öry MEP, EPP Group Coordinator in the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs of the EP**

Called to smaller regional disparities and warned against very high unemployment rate in Europe. He said that not only freedom but also responsibilities need to be emphasized in order to have secure jobs. He continued saying that SMS's sector is one where you can create new jobs but greater social and regional cohesion is needed. He welcomed the new 2020 strategy stressed the need to have quantitative targets.

**Zoltan Csezovay (Hungarian State Secretary for National Economy)**

MR Csezovay said that he welcomes the new 2020 strategy on one hand but on the other he still sees it very bureaucratic. He questioned how to reach fiscal balance employment, sustainable and inclusive growth. He said that the "flexicurity is not a real solution and warned that benchmarks to reduce poverty could be misleading. He welcomed the new governance and a very strong surveillance mechanism. He question what is more important, fiscal stability or competitiveness and expressed commitment to solve coming challenges.

**Richard Hume-Rothery, Director, European Study Group; Joint Rapporteur,** made conclusions and summarised the discussion

**EIN Working Group 2 finished at 18.30.**

**Alena Carna  
Advisor**