

Rebuilding an Inclusive, Value-based Europe of Solidarity and Trust through Social Investments (Re-InVEST)

Venue & dates

Irish College, Janseniustraat 1, 3000 Leuven - 28-29 March 2019

Theme of the conference

In 2013, following a period of crisis and harsh austerity measures, the Commission launched the Social Investment Package (SIP) as a first endeavour to rebalance economic and social progress. Our ambition with the Re-InVEST project (2015-2019) is to contribute to strengthening the philosophical as well as the institutional and empirical underpinnings of the SIP – linked with the European Pillar of Social Rights – with a view to fostering a more inclusive Europe. The final conference will sketch a full panorama of the 50 research reports and aims to contribute to a dialogue between academic researchers, public and social services, civil society and policy makers around various aspects of social policy.

Draft programme

Thursday, March 28

- **09.30 – 10.00: Opening addresses**
 - Mrs Marianne Thyssen, European Commissioner for Employment and Social Affairs
 - Michel Debruyne Re-InVEST / Georgios Papanagnou (DG Research & Innovation) / Paloma Martin (Research Executive Agency)
- **10.00 – 11.15: Session I: Social investment and the European Pillar of Social Rights**
 - Testimony from Italy
 - Jean-Michel Bonvin (University of Geneva) & Ortrud Lessmann (University of Hamburg and IFZ Salzburg): Social investment, from a human capital to a human rights and capabilities approach
 - Comments: Frank Vandenbroucke (University of Amsterdam) & Olivier Bontout (European Commission, DG EMPL – tbc)
- **11.15 – 11.45: coffee**
- **11.45 – 13.00: Session II: Social (dis)investment and human rights during the crisis**
 - Ides Nicaise (KU Leuven): The long-term impact of the 2008-2014 crisis on vulnerable groups
 - Anna Ruelens (KU Leuven): Vulnerability, economic crisis and democratic deficit
 - Jean-Luc Dubois & Guillaume Jean (Institut de Recherche pour le Développement): Poverty and vulnerability indicators based on the human rights and capabilities approach
 - Comments: Sian Jones (European Anti-Poverty Network) & representative of European Commission tbc
- **13.00 – 14.00: Lunch**
- **14.00 – 16.00: Breakout sessions: A social investment perspective on service markets: case studies**
 - 14.00 – 15.00: three parallel sessions:
 - Early childhood education: Özgün Ünver (KU Leuven) & Jana Hainsworth (Eurochild)
 - Health care: Rita Baeten (Observatoire Social Européen) & Dorota Sienkiewicz (Eurohealth)
 - Water provision: Mary Murphy (Maynooth University) & Satoko Kishimoto (Transnational Institute, Amsterdam)
 - 15.00 – 16.00: three parallel sessions:
 - Housing: Marja Elsinga (TU Delft) & Alice Pittini (Housing Europe)

- Basic financial services: Mahmood Messkoub (Erasmus University Rotterdam), Michel Dewolfs (MyTrusto, Antwerpen) & Angela Black (EFIN)
- Mental health care: Rich Moth & Michael Lavalette (HOPE University Liverpool) & Luigi Leonori (SMES Europe)
- **16.00 – 16.30: coffee**
- **16.30 – 17.30: panel discussion: Social investment in service markets - the role of the EU**
Anne Van Lancker (private consultant), Sian Jones (EAPN), Patrick De Bucquois (Social Services Europe), Mary Murphy (Maynooth University), Krzysztof Balon (European Economic and Social Committee)
- **19.00 – 22.00: Conference diner**

Friday, March 29

- **09.00 – 11.00: Social protection and active labour market policies from a social investment perspective**
 - René Lehwess-Litzmann (SOFI Göttingen): Social protection and active labour market policies in the past decade: the European panorama
 - Ides Nicaise (KU Leuven): Social protection and active labour market policies: qualitative evaluation from a social investment perspective
 - Comments: Stefan Olsson (European Commission, DG EMPL – tbc), Martin Kronauer (HWR Berlin), Marja Jepsen (European Trade Union Institute)
- **11.00 – 11.30: coffee**
- **11.30 – 13.00: Fostering a social investment climate: macro-economic and political conditions**
 - Jeremy Leaman (University of Loughborough): Ethical and fiscal boundary conditions
 - Robert Salais (CNRS, Paris): Governance and participation
 - Comments: Séamus Boland (European Economic and Social Committee), Claire Dhéret (European Policy Centre - tbc)
- **13.00 – 14.00: lunch**
- **14.00 – 15.30: Participatory action research with vulnerable groups – a human rights and capabilities approach**
 - Video fragments
 - Mary Murphy (Maynooth University): The PAHRCA approach: methodological lessons from the Re-INVEST project
 - Comment: Xavier Godinot (ATD Fourth World)
 - Plenary discussion
- **15.30 – 16.00: Closing addresses:**
 - Ides Nicaise (KU Leuven)
 - Peter Wouters (Beweging.net)

Target audience

Civil society organisations, social partners, public and social services, national and EU policy makers, academic researchers.

Research partners

Our consortium is embedded in the network 'Alliances to fight poverty', a network of civil society organisations, trade unions, policy makers and academics co-ordinated by the Flemish Christian labour movement Beweging.net, and committed to a more inclusive Europe.

No	Participant organisation name	Country
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1	Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (KU Leuven – Ides Nicaise)	Belgium
2	Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS – Robert Salais)	France
3	Soziologisches Forschungsinstitut Goettingen e.V. (SOFI – René Lehweß-Litzmann)	Germany
4	Internationales Forschungszentrum für Soziale und Ethische Fragen (IFZ –Ortrud Lessmann)	Austria
5	Universite Catholique de Louvain (UCL – Jean De Munck)	Belgium
6	National University of Ireland, Maynooth (NUIM – Mary Murphy)	Ireland
7	Loughborough University (Loughborough University – Jeremy Leaman)	United Kingdom
8	Erasmus Universiteit Rotterdam (EUR – Mahmood Meskoub)	Netherlands
9	Technische Universiteit Delft (TU Delft – Marja Elsinga)	Netherlands
10	Liverpool Hope University (Liverpool Hope University – Michael Lavalette)	United Kingdom
11	Institut de Recherche pour le Developpement (Jean-Luc Dubois)	France
12	Observatoire Social Européen asbl (Rita Baeten)	Belgium
13	University of Geneva (Jean-Michel Bonvin)	Switzerland
14	Rigas Stradina Universitate (RSU – Tana Lace)	Latvia
15	Beweging vzw (Michel Debruyne)	Belgium
16	EAPN Portugal (EAPN Portugal – Sandra Maria Lopes Mendes dos Santos)	Portugal
17	Fundatia The Open Network for Community Development (Fundatia TON – Christina Chert)	Romania
18	The Poverty Alliance (The Poverty Alliance – Peter Kelly)	United Kingdom
19	Coordinamento Nazionale Comunità di Accoglienza (CNCA – Cinzia Brentari)	Italy
20	Groupe de Recherche et de Réalisations pour le Développement Rural (GRDR)	France