What defines social dialogue at EU level

- institutionalised
- tripartite
- cross-sectoral
- exchange of information
- formal
- social partners
- consultation
- collective bargaining on wages
- negotiation
- informal
- sectoral
- bipartite
EU level social dialogue: forms

Bipartite Dialogue
- Employers and trade unions
- Cross-industry social dialogue committee
  - Economy as a whole
- Sectoral social dialogue committee
  - 43 sectors of the economy

Tripartite Dialogue
- Employers, trade unions and public authorities (Commission, Council)
- Tripartite Social Summit for Growth and Employment
  - Art. 152 TFEU
Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU)

Art. 152:
Union recognises and promotes the role of social partners at Union level respecting their autonomy + Tripartite Social Summit

Art. 154:
Consultation of EU level social partners by the Commission + balanced support

Art. 155:
Agreements concluded by social partners
Consultation

**Compulsory two-stage consultation** before the European Commission’s proposals in the **social** policy field

The so-called **Article 154 list**

**Social partners can directly influence** legislative initiatives
Agreements

Autonomous agreements implemented by social partners

- telework (2002)
- handling and use of Crystalline Silica (2004)

Agreements implemented as Council Directives

- part-time work (1997)
- Work in Fishing (2017)
Agreements and other social dialogue outcomes

- Agreements establishing minimum standards
- Process-oriented texts
- Joint opinions and tools: Exchange of information
- Agreements Council decision
- Autonomous agreements
- Frameworks of action
- Guidelines and Codes of conduct
- Policy orientations
- Joint opinions
- Declarations
- Tools

Implementation reports

“Reciprocal commitments pole”

“Joint lobbying pole”

(Degryse & Pochet, 2011)
EU funding

- Logistical, operational and financial support for meetings
- 3 calls for proposals a year
- European Social Fund (ESF): capacity building of social partners and implementation of reforms and policies
A priority for the new European Commission

• **Political Guidelines of President elect Ursula von der Leyen**

• **Mission letters to Executive Vice President designate Valdis Dombrovskis and Commissioner for Jobs designate Nicolas Schmit**
More information

Social dialogue
http://ec.europa.eu/social_dialogue/

Eurofound
https://www.eurofound.europa.eu/topic/social-dialogue
Thank you!