Joint HSS/LRG Working Group on Social Services

Tuesday, 26 February 2019, Brussels (9h00-16h15)
ITUH, Boulevard du Roi Albert II, 5, 1210 Brussels

Interpretation: Active: EN/FR/DE; Passive: ES/SV/DA

MORNING SESSION: 9h00-12h30

0. Welcome, adoption of draft agenda, noting of annotated agenda and adoption of minutes of last Working Group Social Services, 3 October 2018

1. Technical seminar on the transition from institutional care to community-based care

Main questions
- What is the impact of new models of care on the provision and quality of the services, on the workforce and on the users?
- What can/should trade unions do to address the opportunities and challenges linked to this shift from care in institutions to care in the community/in households?
- What can the EU do to support the shifts (e.g. with regard to public procurement rules, sectorial dialogue, ESF+ regulation, investment guidelines)

Objectives for EPSU
- Allowing EPSU affiliates to exchange on the workforce-related aspects/particular challenges in relation to de-institutionalisation and transition from institutional care to community-based care
- Allowing EPSU to compile key points/priorities/request from a trade union perspective
- Link this topic to other dossiers already dealt with, such as addressing health and safety risks, professional qualifications and access to CPD, digitalisation in the care sector, the quality of care services and personal and household services
- Bringing together trade unions, provider organisations, users, funding agencies and the EC to exchange on the challenges and opportunities stemming from the increasing de-institutionalisation of services in the field of elderly care and the care for persons with disabilities and legislative, policy programmes and financial instruments to promote the transition from institutional care to community-based care from different perspectives
- Identifying joint issues and concerns & possible common action and/or lobbying points in a national context and/or at EU-level

Round table with representatives of key stakeholder groups => Speakers - all confirmed
- Representative of provider and advocacy organisations: Luk Zelderloo, Secretary General, European Association of Service Providers for Persons with Disabilities (EASPD)
- Representative of a funding agency: Jos Theunis & Head of Department “Financing and care planning” & Rudi Kennes, Official for inclusion and international affairs, Flemish Agency for People with a Disability (VAPH), jointly with
- Representative from Belgian trade unions, represented in VAPH: Fatiha Dahmani, LBC-NVK & Jan-Piet Bauwens, SETCa
- Representative of European Expert Group on the Transition from Institutional to Community-based Care: Milan Švěfepa, Director, Inclusion Europe
- Representative of user organisation/independent living movement: Frank Sioen, Advocacy Officer, European Network for Independent Living (ENIL)
- Representative of European Commission
  - Elena Schubert to replace Emmanuelle Grange, Head of Unit, Directorate C “Social Affairs”/3. Disability and Inclusion, DG EMPL
  - Marie-Anne Paraskevas, Policy Officer ESF and Cohesion Policy, Directorate F “Investment”/1. ESF and FEAD: Policy and Legislation”, DG EMPL
- European Parliament: MEP José Inácio Faria, EPP, Portugal
Some background information to start with


Other issues to be dealt with in the morning session

- EPSU Key Issue Paper “Good jobs/working conditions for care workers in private households”: Presentation and discussion

AFTERNOON SESSION 14h30-16h15

Regular meeting of EPSU Working Group Social Services with the following topics planned
=> See general agenda