

EPSU General Circular N° 8 (2021)

To all EPSU affiliates in EU countries
Cc for information to all affiliates, all EPSU
Statutory Committees and the EPSU public
services network

REF. JWG/ak
Contact person: Penny Clarke

Brussels, 25 May 2021

Dear colleagues,

As we discussed at the last EPSU Executive Committee, the Future of Europe Conference has now begun. The Conference has launched a digital Platform – in all EU languages - and will soon create ‘citizens’ panels’ and other initiatives to give citizens ‘a say on what matters to them.’ The outcomes will influence future EU policy direction and possibly lead to Treaty changes.

The ETUC has set up a Working Group to follow and influence the Conference. The Working Group is encouraging participation by affiliates with the aim to ensure that trade union priorities for a more social and sustainable Europe feature in the discussions and that our voice is heard. For EPSU our Deputy General Secretary Penny Clarke participates.

On the basis of the ETUC Resolution on the ‘Roadmap for the ETUC work on the Conference on the Future of Europe’ - see <https://www.etuc.org/en/document/etuc-resolution-roadmap-etuc-work-conference-future-europe> - the ETUC has introduced into the Platform a number of thematic priorities. You can find all of these at the bottom of this email, giving the link directly to the Future of Europe Conference Platform.

We invite all members to endorse these priorities. To do this you will need to first create an account for your organization on the Platform <https://futureu.europa.eu/> and select your language.

Members of the ETUC working group will follow the different priorities, and in EPSU we will focus on the priority on health and public services.

We ask you to support all the trade union proposals in the Platform by

- (a) endorsing them (once you have your account just follow the link to the priority)
- (b) introducing positive comments about them
- (c) asking members to do the same

Given that there is discussion on possibly strengthening the EU competence on health, it is particularly important that affiliates from as many countries as possible reinforce the ETUC/EPSU message in this priority. This will help ensure that our objectives for EU policy on health and social care go in the right direction. The key wording for this priority is:

Equal access to affordable and high-quality public services, including health, EU actions should ensure that all in the EU, regardless of their economic situation and place of residence, have access to high-quality public services, including quality health and social care, education, public transport, energy, water and sanitation, internet, good administration... All should enjoy the right to good health and have equal access to affordable and high-quality health and social

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EPSU is a member
federation of the ETUC
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PSI in Europe

care services, delivered by resilient, well-staffed and well-equipped public systems with universal coverage. For direct link

<https://futureu.europa.eu/processes/Health/f/3/proposals/13834>

It is possible to add public events into the Platform. We encourage you to do this.

The ETUC priorities are not exhaustive. Depending on the developments, the ETUC will prepare further – more detailed – proposals to be submitted the Platform after discussion with the Working Group.

In addition, the ETUC work on the Conference is of course not limited to the Platform. The Working Group will continue to act as contact point for the different organisations, to ensure the necessary exchange of information and coordination in the initiatives and actions on the Conference at various levels and to ensure adequate trade union mobilisation.

We encourage you to explore with your confederation(s) what is being done and how you can be involved to ensure our priorities are covered.

Please contact Penny pclarke@epsu.org if need more information, can give feedback of activities in your union or country, and/or if you would like to be involved in EPSU work around the Conference.

Many thanks for your support.

Best regards,

Jan Willem Goudriaan
EPSU General Secretary

ETUC proposals (priorities) submitted in the Platform – Conference on the Future of Europe:
LINKS

In follow-up to the ETUC resolution <https://www.etuc.org/en/document/etuc-resolution-roadmap-etuc-work-conference-future-europe>

Updated: 20 May 2021

ETUC proposals (priorities) submitted in the Platform

<https://futureu.europa.eu/profiles/ETUC/activity>

- Just transition
<https://futureu.europa.eu/processes/GreenDeal/f/1/proposals/13832>
- Equal access to affordable and high-quality public services, including health
<https://futureu.europa.eu/processes/Health/f/3/proposals/13834>
- A renewed Social Contract for Europe for a fair recovery
<https://futureu.europa.eu/processes/Economy/f/10/proposals/13835>
- New EU economic model and governance
<https://futureu.europa.eu/processes/Economy/f/10/proposals/13836>
- European Pillar of Social Rights for a social market economy
<https://futureu.europa.eu/processes/Economy/f/10/proposals/13837>
- Fair digitalisation
<https://futureu.europa.eu/processes/Digital/f/15/proposals/13838>
- Strengthen the enforceability of Human Rights Instruments
<https://futureu.europa.eu/processes/ValuesRights/f/12/proposals/13839>
- Gender equality
<https://futureu.europa.eu/processes/ValuesRights/f/12/proposals/13840>

- A common migration and asylum policy, based on respect for rights and equal treatment
<https://futureu.europa.eu/processes/Migration/f/34/proposals/13841>
- Lifelong learning and the right to training to become a reality for everyone in Europe
<https://futureu.europa.eu/processes/Education/f/36/proposals/13842>
- Youth. EU cannot fund precarity!
<https://futureu.europa.eu/processes/Education/f/36/proposals/13843>
- ETUC calls for a reform of EU trade and investment policy and for a relaunch of global multilateralism
<https://futureu.europa.eu/processes/EUInTheWorld/f/16/proposals/13844>
- Social Progress Protocol
<https://futureu.europa.eu/processes/Democracy/f/6/proposals/13862>
- Better decision-making for a fairer Europe
<https://futureu.europa.eu/processes/Democracy/f/6/proposals/13863>
- Economic democracy
<https://futureu.europa.eu/processes/Democracy/f/6/proposals/13864>