

# The European Semester

## 27<sup>th</sup> Steering Group Meeting of PA 9

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1. The European Semester cycle
2. The role of the Employment Committee (EMCO) in the Semester
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# 1. The Semester cycle

- Follows a specific one-year cycle
- During the first phase, EU member states discuss their fiscal and budgetary plans and agree on key priorities
- In the second part of the cycle, EU member states aim to align national policies for the subsequent year

# AGENDA SETTING

- European Pillar of Social Rights
- Sustainable Development Goals

**Analysis of situation for Policy Guidance**

*Autumn package*

Annual Sustainable Growth Survey, Joint Employment Report

**Monitoring for Policy Guidance**

National Reform Programmes and RRF bi-annual reporting

Recovery Resilience Facility scoreboard

**Monitoring for Implementation**

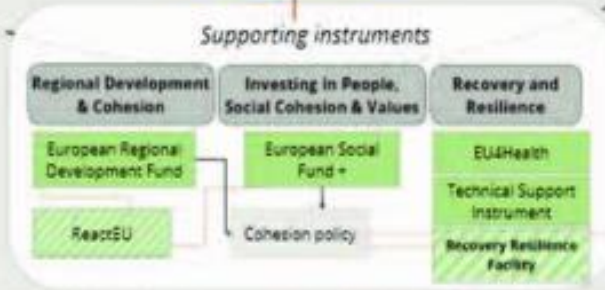
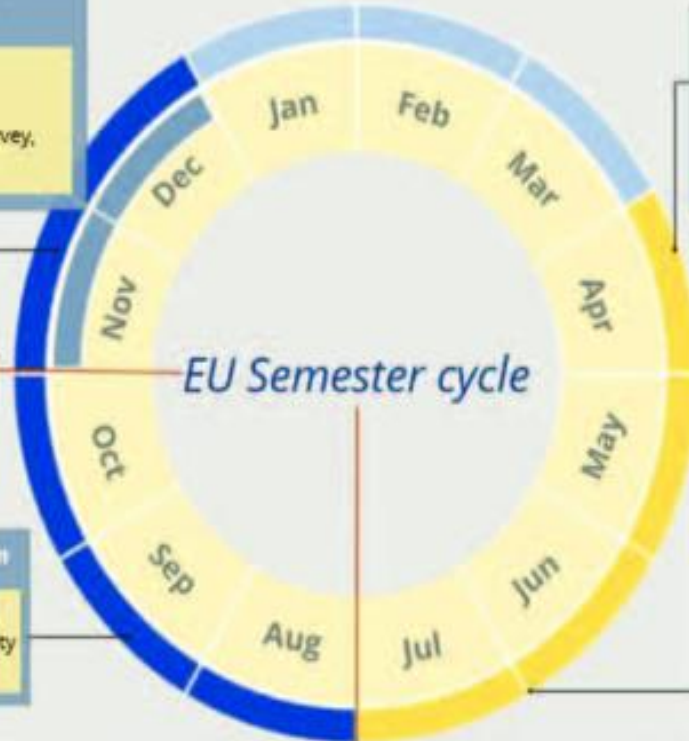
RRF bi-annual reporting

Recovery and Resilience Facility scoreboard

**Country specific policies and plans**

*Spring package*

Country Reports, Communication proposal for Country-specific Recommendations,



**Legend**

- Blue box = Semester including RRF process
- Yellow box = European Commission
- Light blue box = Member States
- White box = Social framework and funding instruments
- Green box = Complementarity of EU funds
- Light green box = Multiannual Financial Framework
- Dark green box = NextGenerationEU

MONITORING & EVALUATION

FORMULATION

# IMPLEMENTATION

- Social Scoreboard
- SDGs indicator set

European Pillar of Social Rights Action Plan

## 1. The Semester cycle

- Nov.: release of “autumn package“ (Documents: Alert Mechanism Report, Annual Sustainable Growth Survey, Joint Employment Report, the draft recommendations on economic policy and the opinions on the budget plans)
- March: approval of “autumn package“
- April: MS submit National Reform Programmes (NRPs) and medium-term fiscal structural plans to be evaluated by the EC
- May: based on the NRPs the EC issues Country Specific Recommendations (CSRs) among other documents with the “spring package“
- June-July: CSRs discussed in the Council, approval in June, adoption in July
- Aug.-Oct.: MS are invited to implement the CSRs

## 2. The role of the Employment Committee (EMCO) in the Semester

- EMCO operates within the policy framework of the European Employment Strategy and – as set out in Art. 148 TFEU – plays a key role in the European Semester
- Advisory committee to the EPSCO Council
- Promotes the coordination of employment and labour market policies both at European and national level
- Two subgroups: Indicators Group (IG) & Policy Analysis Group (PAG)
- Every year, EMCO adopts its Annual Work Programme, taking into account the policy priorities of the European Council, the Council and the EC
- EMCO cooperates with other committees (especially the Social Protection Committee and the Economic Policy Committee) to discuss issues of joint interest
- Tasks: Council advice & opinions, multilateral surveillance & thematic work

### 3. A practical example: The Social Convergence Framework (SCF)

- Aim: identifying social imbalances occurring in the EU and its member states
- Pilot in 2023-2024
- 2-step analysis:
  - 1. Identifying risks to social convergence through the Social Scoreboard
  - 2. If a MS qualifies: Staff Working Document for 2nd stage deeper analysis
  - MLS & CSR review: If risks to social convergence have been confirmed

Year	Equal opportunities and access to the labour market					Dynamic labour markets and fair working conditions			Public support / Social protection and inclusion			
	Early leavers from education and training	Gender employment gap	Income quintile ratio	At risk of poverty or social exclusion rate	Youth NEET rate	Employment rate	Unemployment rate	GDHI per capita growth	Impact of social transfers on poverty reduction	Children aged less than 3 years in formal childcare	Self-reported unmet need for medical care	Individuals' level of digital skills
Year	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	2016	2015	2016	2015	2015	2017
Best performers	HR, LT, SI	LT, LV, SE	CZ, FI, SI, SK	CZ, DK, FI, NL	DK, LU, NL, SE	DE, DK, NL, SE, UK	CZ, DE	PL, RO	AT, DK, FI, IE	BE, DK, LU, PT, SE		FI, LU, NL, SE
Better than average	AT, CZ, DK, EL, IE, LU, PL	AT, BG, DK, FR, PT, SI	AT, BE, DK, EE, FR, HU, MT, NL, SE	AT, DE, HU, IE, MT, SE, SI, SK	BE, CZ, EE, MT, SI	AT, CZ, EE, HU, LT, MT, SK	DK, HU, LU, MT, NL, PL, RO, SK, UK	BG, DK, EE, LV, LT, SE	BE, CZ, FR, HU, SE, SI, UK	AT, ES, FR, NL	AT, CY, CZ, DE, DK, ES, FR, LU, MT, NL, SE, SI	AT, CZ, DE, MT, UK
On average	BE, DE, EE, FI, FR, LV, NL, SE, SK, UK	DE, EE, ES, HR, IE, LU, NL, UK	CY, DE, HR, IE, PL, UK	BE, EE, PL, PT, UK	FI, FR, HU, IE, PL, PT, SK, UK	CY, FI, FR, IE, LV, PL, PT, SI	BE, BG, FI, FR, IE, LT, LV, SE, SI	BE, CZ, DE, IE, FR, HU, NL, SK, FI, UK	CY, DE, MT	DE, EE, FI, IE, IT, LV, SI, UK	BE, BG, HR, HU, IE, LT, PT, SK, UK	BE, EE, ES, FR, LT, SI, SK
Good but to monitor		FI		FR, LU	AT, DE		AT		NL			DK
Weak but improving			RO	LV	IT	ES	CY, ES, HR		EE, LV	RO	LV	CY
To watch	BG, CY, HU, IT	BE, CY, CZ, HU, PL, SK	LU, LV, PT	CY, ES, HR, IT, LT	ES, LT, LV	BE, BG, LU, RO	EE, IT, PT	ES, IT, AT, PT, SI	ES, HR, LU, PL, PT, SK	BG, CY, EL, HR, HU, LT, MT	FI	EL, HU, IE, LV, PL, PT
Critical situations	ES, MT, PT, RO	EL, IT, MT, RO	BG, EL, ES, IT, LT	BG, EL, RO	BG, CY, EL, HR, RO	EL, HR, IT	EL	EL, CY	BG, EL, IT, LT, RO	CZ, PL, SK	EE, EL, IT, PL, RO	BG, HR, RO



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Start of the cycle

EU Semester cycle

**Supporting instruments**

Regional Development & Cohesion	Investing in People, Social Cohesion & Values	Recovery and Resilience
European Regional Development Fund	European Social Fund +	EU4Health
ReactEU	Cohesion policy	Technical Support Instrument
		Recovery Resilience Facility

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FORMULATION

# IMPLEMENTATION

# Any Questions?

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