

Social Union in Europe

Challenges, opportunities, imperatives

Millennium Institute conference, 30th November 2017

- - draft agenda - - -

The Gothenburg declaration is expected to announce a new commitment of the European Union to the development of its social dimension. While in recent years there have been considerations about linking the social agenda only to the eurozone, for non-eurozone member states like Hungary it is vital to ensure that mechanisms that facilitate economic and social convergence continue to apply to all. The EU is needed as a guarantor of social rights and as a driver towards higher social standards.

What kind of European Union do we want and what should be the role of social policy in a reinforced EU? How serious is the threat of social dumping and what are the right ways to deal with it? How can the EU contribute to the resilience of the national welfare systems and more dynamic wage growth? Can we expect more robust social dialogue than in the past? These and other questions would be answered by leading Hungarian and international experts, and a panel of Hungarian politicians.

9.00 Welcome by **László Andor**

9.10 International panel: **Frank Vandenbroucke, Sofia Fernandes, Henning Meyer**

10.40—11.00 Coffee break

11.00 Hungarian expert panel: **Herczog Mária, Galgóczi Béla, Szikra Dorottya**

11.45—12.00 Coffee break

12.00—Hungarian political panel: **Kordás László, Hegyi Gyula, Vadai Ágnes, Ungár Péter**

13.20 End of conference

The event is supported by Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (Budapest).