



SEMINAR

GIVING A NEW IMPETUS TO THE UNION?

FOR AN IMPROVED SINGLE EUROPEAN ACT: 1986 - 2016

8 DECEMBER 2016 • 15:00 > 17:30

Salle Sicco Mansholt, bâtiment Charlemagne, rue de la Loi 170 - Brussels • EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Working Languages: EN

At the beginning of the 80s, Europe had to face problems of convergence and economic growth and suffered from rising Euroscepticism and tensions with the UK. A political and institutional leap was made in 1986 when the Delors Commission put forward a comprehensive Act that found widespread political consensus among member states.

After 30 years, the triptych that was at the very foundations of the Single European Act: *competition that stimulates, cooperation that strengthens, and solidarity that unites*, may still be a valuable political strategy to restore a much-needed long-term vision.

Deepening the Internal Market is essential for the full recovery of European economies and to ensure competitiveness amidst increasing global competition. At the very same time, it is crucial to take concrete steps to promote upward convergence towards higher levels of well-being and reduce social imbalances, as if European policy-making sacrifices social standards, there are no chances to encourage unity and cohesion.

On the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the signature of the Single European Act, this High-Level Discussion will focus on the opportunity to promote a new grand bargain which could give the Union a new impetus.

15:00 > 15:15 Introduction

- **Yves BERTONCINI**, Director of the Jacques Delors Institute.
- **Hatto KÄFFER**, deputy head of Historical Archives Service.

15:15 > 15:30 Presentation “The Delors Commission and the commitment to ‘Social Europe’ in the ‘Age of Reagan’ 1”

- **Alessandra BITUMI**, winner of the 2016 Jacques Delors Scholarship.

15:30 > 17:30 Round-table “The Value of a Political Vision : Towards a New Grand Bargain that brings together Internal Market enhancements and the development of Social Europe”

- **Pascal LAMY**, President Emeritus of the Jacques Delors Institute.
- **Gilles GRIN**, Director of the Jean Monnet Foundation.
- **Bernadette SEGOL**, former secretary general, European Trade Union Confederation.

Debate with participants moderated by **Daniela VINCENTI**, Editor in Chief of EurActiv.