

Chairpersons of the committees from national parliaments and the European Parliament responsible for employment and social affairs, economic cooperation and development

24 September 2020
Enclosures: 2

Dr Matthias Bartke, MdB
Chairman of the Committee on Labour and Social Affairs

Dr Peter Ramsauer, MdB
Chairman of the Committee on Economic Cooperation and Development

German Bundestag
Platz der Republik 1
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Invitation

Dear Chairpersons,
Dear Colleagues,

The completion of the European Single Market and the deepening of global trade relations mean that the European Union (EU) and its member states have a responsibility for reinforcing the rights of workers in Europe and across the world. The signing of the European Pillar of Social Rights represents an important step on the path to greater equality of opportunity, social protection and fair working conditions for workers in the EU. With the European Commission's announcement of a cross-sectoral initiative on binding due diligence requirements for companies throughout their global supply chains, the EU is shouldering the responsibility it has towards workers across the world.

We would like to invite you, as chairpersons of the committees from national parliaments and the European Parliament responsible for employment and social affairs, as well as economic cooperation and development, to the video conference

**For a social and fair Europe
on 9 November 2020**

In line with the work programme of the German Bundestag and Bundesrat for the Parliamentary Dimension of the German EU Council Presidency, we wish to discuss current issues in social and development policy with you.



In the first session, we will examine how the European Pillar of Social Rights can be brought to life further and discuss the steps needed on the path to common minimum standards for wages, unemployment benefits, minimum incomes and old-age provision. The second session will be dedicated to the subject of due diligence requirements for European firms for their supply chains, as part of the EU's responsibility towards workers worldwide. Against the background of the COVID-19 pandemic, we will also during the conference seek answers to the urgent question of how strengthening the social dimension can enhance the resilience of the EU and its member states.

We would have liked to welcome you personally to Berlin, but regrettably the situation in the pandemic means that it is still not possible to hold an in-person meeting which could be attended by representatives from all parliaments. Nevertheless, we look forward all the more to meeting you online.

Up to four chairpersons or their deputies can be nominated from each parliament as active participants in the conference. Naturally, the conference can also be followed as a public live stream.

We attach the provisional draft programme (Enclosure 1), along with **an information sheet containing technical information** (Enclosure 2), including on accreditation.

Please take into account the **deadline for registration**, which is **30 October 2020**.

We look forward to your participation.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Matthias Bartke

Dr. Peter Ramsauer