

Building a Social Europe for all with all: Social Platform's views on the future European Pillar of Social Rights Action Plan

Key Messages



- 1. Comprehensive and ambitious implementation of the Social Pillar:** the Action Plan must define concrete targets and timelines and clearly outline how each of the 20 principles will be implemented. Implementation with great ambition and at all levels of governance - EU, national, regional and local - will be key to ensure Europe's social recovery during and in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 2. The importance of mainstreaming across policy areas:** synergies must be established between existing and future initiatives and strategies which fall under the different principles of the Social Pillar. Equality principles must be mainstreamed.
- 3. A Social Pillar for all people in the EU:** existing and future initiatives under the Social Pillar should always consider the impact on different groups of people, with a specific focus on groups in vulnerable situations.
- 4. Establishing minimum social standards across the EU:** whenever possible, legislation should be used over soft-law instruments to set minimum level-playing fields for the implementation of the Social Pillar at the national level.
- 5. Rebalancing social and economic policies in EU governance:** all 20 principles of the Social Pillar must be effectively mainstreamed and monitored in the European Semester process.
- 6. An Economic Governance Framework that enables social investment to be able to finance the measures needed to fully implement the Social Pillar:** the Stability and Growth Pact shows key shortcomings failing to differentiate between productive types of expenditure, which are conducive to economic growth, from unproductive ones. Productive types of social public expenditure should be considered for exemption from the corrective and preventive arm of the Stability and Growth Pact.
- 7. Investing in people, both at EU and national level:** to foster social fairness, resilience and a more inclusive Union, implementation of the Social Pillar must be adequately funded in the next MFF and Next Generation EU.
- 8. Closely monitoring national implementation:** the effective implementation of the Social Pillar must be monitored through the European Semester process, using an improved Social Scoreboard.
- 9. Working together with civil society:** the meaningful involvement of civil society in the implementation of the Social Pillar must be ensured, both at the European and the national level, to leverage its expertise and guarantee that measures taken correspond to people's needs and experiences.
- 10. A post-2020 Strategy:** the Social Pillar and its Action Plan must be included in an overarching post-2020 strategic framework, which should also fully integrate the SDGs and the European Green Deal.



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