

To: European Commission Recovery & Resilience Taskforce
CC: European Parliament RRF working group, rapporteurs of the European Parliament report on the implementation of the Recovery & Resilience Facility

Brussels, 22 June 2022

Dear colleagues,

Subject: Upcoming European Commission RRF review report

The Recovery & Resilience Facility (RRF) can help make our societies more sustainable, resilient, and better prepared for the green and digital transitions. It has an important role to play to address the impact of the ongoing cost-of-living crisis - with spiking energy and food prices - worsened by Russia's invasion of Ukraine. This crisis especially impacts people in vulnerable situations, who already start out at a disadvantage and often experience multiple forms of discrimination.

Monitoring the implementation of the RRF and how it supports social rights is crucial. While, unfortunately, no earmarking for social priorities was set in the RRF, Member States did allocate some investment to social cohesion. Yet, as also highlighted by the European Parliament in its report on the implementation of the RRF, we regret that social investment has mainly been dedicated to social infrastructure rather than the provision of services.

The RRF regulation obliges Member States to include a summary of the consultation process with stakeholders in their National Recovery & Resilience Plan (NRRPs). Various stakeholders, including Social Platform, have highlighted issues with the structure and quality of the involvement of stakeholders, including civil society organisations, in the process.

We call on the Commission to:

- **Address existing social investment gaps in future Semester cycles through country-specific recommendations**
- **Include in the report a breakdown of investment by priority, including social priorities, describing how it reaches different population groups, especially those in vulnerable situations**
- **Include a section in the report that evaluates the quality - not just the quantity - of stakeholder involvement in the implementation of the NRRPs and address areas for improvement in future Semester cycles through country-specific recommendations**

Yours sincerely,



Alva Finn, Social Platform Secretary-General