

Brussels, 21 September 2022

To: Denis Genton, Director-General, Directorate-General A, DG Employment, European Commission; Raquel Lucas, Head of Unit, DG Employment A.1, European Commission

Subject: Advocacy letter calling for monitoring the creation of national coordination mechanisms by Member States

Dear colleagues,

The adoption of the Social Pillar in 2017 and its Action Plan in 2021 were milestones towards building a more resilient, socially just, and inclusive Europe. As part of the Action Plan, the Commission encouraged Member States to create national coordination mechanisms to ensure engagement of all relevant stakeholders in turning it into reality. Social Platform welcomed this recommendation. We developed a toolkit for the national member organisations of our European civil society membership to help them advocate for their national governments to endorse key aspects of the Action Plan, including the mechanisms.

However, we were informed that the Commission does not have a full overview of how many Member States created these mechanisms. Since then, we engaged with our European member organisations - composed of European networks and national CSOs - to inquire whether, to their knowledge, Member States followed through on this recommendation. Based on the feedback received, they are not aware of any Member State having created such a mechanism.

To address this, we call on the Commission to:

- Monitor whether and how Member States are creating coordination mechanisms.
 This should be followed up upon through bilateral conversations with Member States to support them in developing these mechanisms and engaging national CSOs in the implementation of the Social Pillar.
- Share publicly which Member States have or have not created coordination mechanisms, including with CSOs at EU and national levels. This will enable us to support national CSOs in engaging with their governments.

In this way, we can jointly push for a better involvement of civil society in the implementation of the Social Pillar and ensure evidence-based policy-making that ensures a decent life for all.

Yours sincerely,

Aublie 1:

Alva Finn, Social Platform Secretary-General