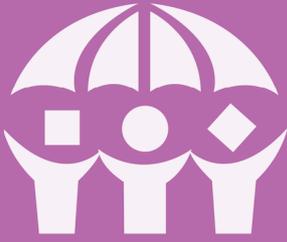# Principle 12: Social Protection

Improved Social Protection

> "Regardless of the type and duration of their employment relationship, workers, and, under comparable conditions, the self-employed, have the right to adequate social protection."

1 What are the demands of Social Platform & its Members?

Develop a rights-based anti-poverty strategy that is based on an integrated active inclusion approach to support people to access training, quality jobs and ensure their participation and access to minimum income;

Adopt an ambitious poverty-reduction target for all Member States in line with the SDGs (50% reduction) and commit to ending extreme poverty (including homelessness) by 2030;

Ambitiously implement the Council Recommendation on Access to Social Protection, ensuring the extension of mandatory and effective coverage and the adequacy of benefits for all workers, regardless of employment status and type of employment relationship;

Ensure that social protection benefits always prevent those covered by social protection from falling into poverty and that minimum income benefits in all Member States achieve a level above the national poverty threshold;

Regularly monitor the implementation of the Council Recommendation through the European Semester.

2 Why do we make these demands?

The EU is far from reaching its objective to lift at least 20 million people out of poverty and social exclusion by 2020;

In the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, it is likely that the number of persons at risk of poverty and social exclusion has increased significantly and will continue to do so;

During the pandemic, those already experiencing poverty and social exclusion have been among those who were hit the hardest.

3 How should they be implemented at EU level?

The Council Recommendation on Access to Social Protection needs to be implemented and monitored with a focus on:

- Coverage and adequacy;
- Guarantee of effective minimum protection for all workers;
- Access to training for all workers.

Read more about principle 12 in our **full paper**.

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