EU Social Summit in Porto (Portugal)

7th May 2021

Focus on the implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights

The EU proclaimed the European Pillar of Social Rights in 2017. The pillar sets out 20 key principles that will be the EU's guide towards realising a strong social Europe that will be fair, inclusive and full of opportunity in the 21st century.

In March 2021, the European Commission presented an action plan with three main targets to be achieved throughout Europe by 2030:

- an employment rate of at least 78% in the European Union

- at least 60% of adults attending training courses every year

- reducing the number of people at risk of social exclusion or poverty by at least 15 million people, including 5 million children

All participants at the summit, the President of the European Commission, the President of the European Parliament, the Portuguese Prime Minister currently holding the Presidency of the Council of the EU, the European social partners (with the ETUC on the workers' side) and civil society organisations subscribed to the European Commission's action plan and took the commitment of working together towards achieving the goals that had been put forward.

The EU heads of state or government held an informal meeting on 7-8 May and issued a Porto declaration, in which, among others, they reaffirmed their pledge to work towards a social Europe. They welcomed the holding of the Social Summit and recognised the value of the European Pillar of Social Rights as a fundamental element in the recovery.

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The European Pillar of Social Rights Action Plan

The Porto Declaration

Eurofedop wishes to cooperate in the realisation of the principles as set forward in the European Pillar of Social Rights and states that public services have a key role to play in making the social Europe become true. Moreover, we underline the importance of realising effective social dialogue structures in reaching the targets as they have been set forward.