



European Economic  
and Social Committee

# NEWSLETTER

## European ESC



CESlink : Online Cooperation between  
Economic and Social Councils

### Presentation



*Dear Sir, Madam,*

We will hold our **474th EESC plenary session** on 21 and 22 September in the Commission's Charlemagne building in Brussels.

The highlight of this session will be a thematic debate on **RIO+20**, titled "**The 2012 UN Conference on sustainable development: preparatory works of the EU**". Among participants to this debate, we are very pleased to welcome **Mr Janez POTOČNIK**, Commissioner for Environment, and **Mr Ricardo NEIVA TAVARES**, Ambassador and Head of the EU Mission of Brazil.

I take this opportunity to congratulate the new President of the Irish National Economic and Social Council (NESC), **Mr Martin Fraser**, who I wish to meet soon. I wish him a lot of success for his mandate in close cooperation with the EU ESCs network.

Wishing you a useful reading,

**Staffan NILSSON,**  
*President*

☞ **Main opinions adopted at the Plenary Session of 13 and 14 July 2011**

☞ You will find the information concerning the opinions on : <http://www.eesc.europa.eu/?i=portal.en.opinions-search>

### Summary of opinions

- ➔ Copyright in the music sector
- ➔ Expanding the use of e-Procurement in the EU (Green Paper)
- ➔ Towards a better functioning Single Market for services
- ➔ Towards a Common Strategic Framework for EU Research and Innovation funding
- ➔ Regional policy contributing to smart growth in Europe 2020
- ➔ Removing cross-border tax obstacles for EU citizens
- ➔ The future of the labour market in Europe
- ➔ An agenda for new skills and jobs: a European contribution towards full employment
- ➔ The Eastern Partnership and the eastern dimension of the EU policies
- ➔ The Energy Efficiency Plan 2011
- ➔ Towards a comprehensive European international investment policy

Mr GKOFAS (GR III – EL)  
Mr FARRUGIA (GR I – MT)  
Mr SIECKER (GR II – NL)  
Mr SVENSSON (GR I – SE)  
Mr CEDRONE (GR II – IT)  
Mr FARRUGIA (GR I – MT)  
Mr GREIF (GR II – AT)  
Mr ZUFIAUR (GR II – ES)  
Mr KALLIO (GR III – FI)  
Ms SIRKEINEN (GR I – FI)  
Mr PEEL (GR I – UK)

☞ **Main debates and opinions at the agenda of the Plenary Session of 21 and 22 September 2011**

- On Thursday 22 September at 9.30 a.m. the debate "**The 2012 UN Conference on sustainable development: preparatory works of the EU**" will be held. Statements will be presented by **Mr Janez POTOČNIK**, Commissioner for Environment, and **Mr Ricardo NEIVA TAVARES**, Ambassador and Head of the EU Mission of Brazil.

#### SOC Section:

- (opinion n°401) Strategy for the effective implementation of the Charter of Fundamental Rights by the EU  
Mr PIRVULESCU (GR III – RO)
- (opinion n°403) European Disability Strategy 2010-2020: a renewed commitment to a barrier-free Europe  
Mr VARDAKASTANIS (GR III – EL)

#### NAT Section:

- (opinion n°498) A resource-efficient Europe – Flagship initiative under the Europe 2020 Strategy  
Mr RIBBE (GR III – DE)
- (opinion n°499) Rio+20: towards the green economy and better governance  
Mr WILMS (GR II – DE)
- (opinion n°514) A roadmap for moving to a competitive low carbon economy in 2050  
Mr ADAMS (GR III – UK)

#### REX Section:

- (opinion n°329) The promotion of renewable energies and the European Neighbourhood Policy: the case of the Euro-Mediterranean region  
Mr COULON (GR II – FR)
- (opinion n°330) Rural development and employment in the Euro-Mediterranean region  
Mr NARRO (GR III – ES)
- (opinion n°341) Promoting representative civil societies in the Euromed region  
Mr DIMITRIADIS (GR I – EL)

To consult the draft agenda of the plenary session and related documents, click on next link : [Agenda of the plenary session](#)

### News from the European institutions

The Council of Europe, the Economic, Social and Environmental Council of France (ESEC) and the EESC are holding on 23 September in Paris, at the ESEC premises, a joint conference called "**The Council of Europe's Social Charter 50 years on: What's next?**".

In the framework of the EU 2020 Strategy, an international Seminar on Innovation, organized by the Spanish ESC, will take place in Madrid on 13-14 October.

The EESC President, Mr Staffan Nilsson, joined by an important delegation, will participate to both events above mentioned.

*We welcome all your comments. Just e-mail us using this link: [suggestions](#).*

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**"Interinstitutional relations, relations with national ESCs"**