



Feasibility and Added Value of a European Unemployment Benefits Scheme

Conference Co-organised by CEPS, the Slovak Presidency of the Council of the EU and the European Commission

11 July 2016, Brussels (Flagey, Place Sainte-Croix)

08h45-10h00 **Registration & Coffee**

10h00-10h30 **Opening Speeches**

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- **Peter Kažimír** (*Minister of Finance, Slovakia*)
- **Pierre Moscovici** (*European Commissioner for Economic and Financial Affairs, Taxation and Customs*)
- **Daniel Gros** (*Director, CEPS*)

POLICY-MAKERS' DEBATE: WHAT DO WE NEED FOR THE EMU?

10h30-11h45 **Panel Session 1: What do we expect from an EMU stabilisation mechanism?**

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Chair: **José Leandro** (*European Commission's Director for Policy, Strategy, Coordination and Communication, Directorate-General for Economic and Financial Affairs*)

- **Dana Reizniece-Ozola** (*Minister of Finance, Latvia*)
- **José António Vieira da Silva** (*Minister of Labour, Solidarity and Social Security, Portugal*)
- **Odile Renaud-Basso** (*Directrice Générale du Trésor, France*)

11h45-12h00 **Coffee Break**

12h00-13h15 **Panel Session 2: What specific advantages would we expect from a European unemployment insurance as a stabilisation mechanism?**

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Chair: **Barbara Kauffmann** (*European Commission's Director for Employment and Social Governance, Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs & Inclusion*)

- **Pier Carlo Padoan** (*Minister of Economy and Finances, Italy*)
- **Kris Peeters** (*Minister of Employment, Economy and Consumer Affairs, Belgium*)
- **Pervenche Berès** (*Member of the European Parliament, S&D*)

13h15-13h30 **Concluding Remarks**

Studio 4 **Peter Kažimír** (*Minister of Finance, Slovakia*)

13h30-14h30 **Lunch Break**

EXPERTS' DEBATE: CAN WE DELIVER?

14h30-15h00 **Design of a European unemployment benefits scheme and its dimensions:
What is examined in the pilot project?**

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Miroslav Beblavý (*Associate Senior Research Fellow, CEPS*)

15h00-16h30 **Parallel Sessions**

Session A: Stabilisation through a European unemployment benefits scheme: What added value in economic and social terms?

15h00-16h30, Studio 4

Keynote:

- **Mathias Dolls** (*Senior Researcher, ZEW*)
- **Xavier Jara** (*Senior Research Officer, ISER Essex*)
- **Richard Lewney** (*Chairman, Cambridge Econometrics*)

Chair: **Rudi Van Dam** (*Chair, Social Protection Committee Indicators' Subgroup*)

Panellists:

- **Beatrice Pierluigi** (*Advisor, Country Surveillance Division, ECB*)
- **Paul De Grauwe** (*John Paulson Chair in European Political Economy, LSE*)
- **Sebastian Dullien** (*Professor, HTW Berlin*)

Session B: Implementation of a European unemployment benefits scheme: Moral hazard and legal and operational challenges

15h00-16h30, **Studio 1**

Keynote:

- **Frank Vandenbroucke** (*Professor, University of Amsterdam*)
- **Michael Coucheir** (*Senior Advisor Social Protection, Eftheia*)
- **René Repasi** (*Scientific Coordinator EURO-CEFG, Erasmus University Rotterdam*)

Chair: **Tom Bevers** (*Chair, Employment Committee*)

Panellists:

- **Claire Courteille** (*Director Brussels Office, ILO*)
- **László Andor** (*Professor, Corvinus University*)
- **Mark Roscam-Abbing** (*Director Employees Regulations, Dutch Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment*)

16h30-16h45 **Coffee Break**

16h45-18h15 **A European unemployment benefits scheme as a stabilisation mechanism:
Does it meet policy-makers' expectations?**
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Chair: **Cinzia Alcidi** (*Head of the Economic Policy Unit, CEPS*)

Panellists:

- **Tom Bevers** (*Chair, Employment Committee*)
- **Rudi Van Dam** (*Chair, Social Protection Committee Indicators' Subgroup*)
- **Maria Jepsen** (*Director of the Research Department, ETUI*)
- **James Watson** (*Director of the Economics Department, BusinessEurope*)

18h15-18h30 **Closing Remarks**

Studio 4 **Marianne Thyssen** (*European Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs, Skills and Labour Mobility*)