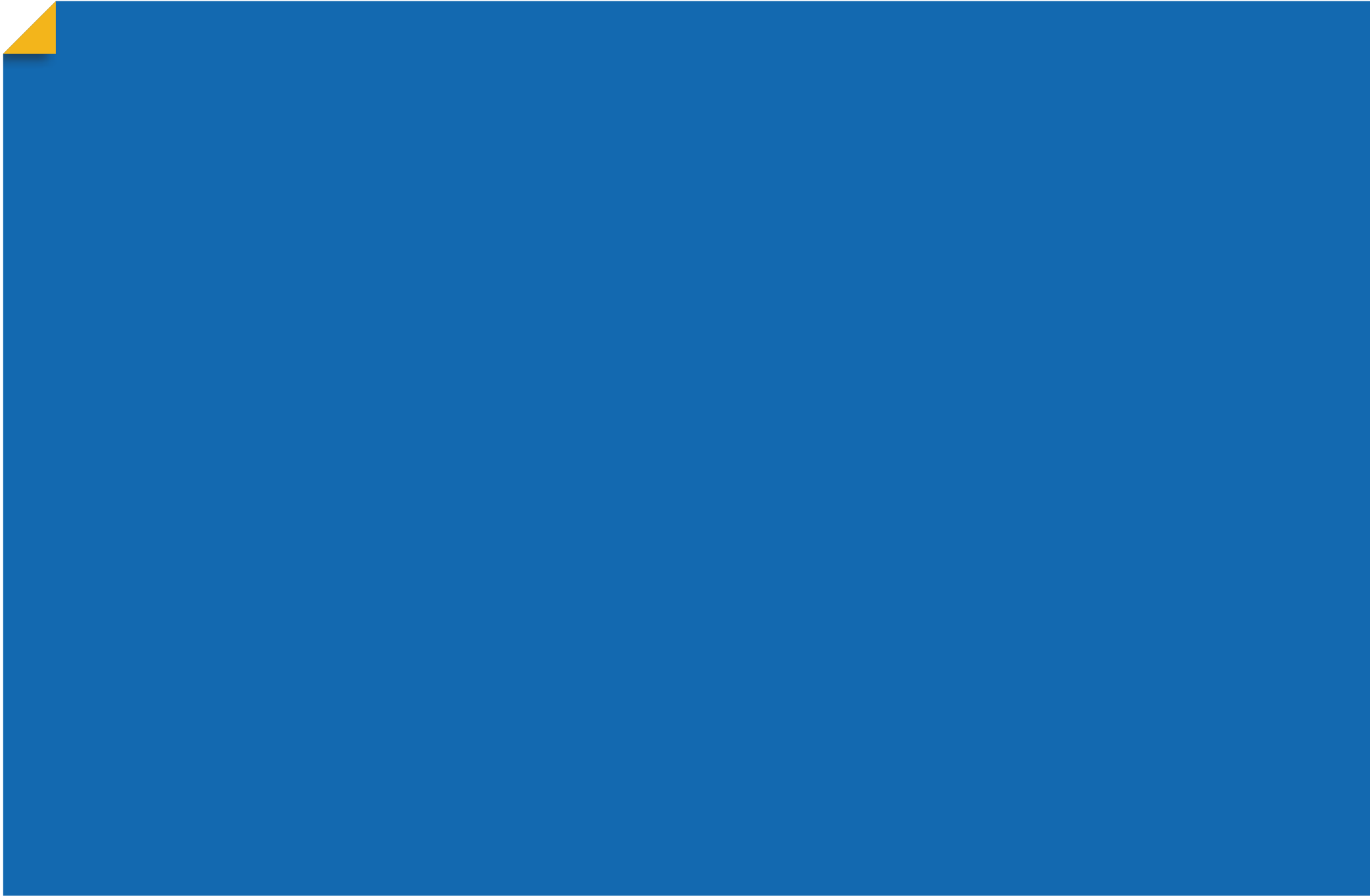




AEIP Activity Report **2016**

European Association
of Paritarian Institutions
of Social Protection







Contents

Foreword President	4
Foreword Secretary General	5
01. AEIP – Our work in Brussels	6
02. 20 years in Europe	7
03. AEIP Working Groups	8
Chapter I. Main AEIP Dossiers for 2016	10
Chapter II. Conferences and events in 2016	24
Chapter III. Partnerships	28
Scientific Council	31
Members	32
Managing Board and Staff	34

Foreword

PRESIDENT



Dear AEIP members,
partners and friends,

The year 2016 was filled with successful and ambitious initiatives and marked an important anniversary for AEIP – we celebrated our 20 years of successful work in Brussels.

With our efforts in the past 20 years we have not only contributed to the development and the quality of the social dialogue but also to a process of innovation and modernization of social protection systems as for us both processes are interlinked. We contributed through, on one hand facilitating the active participation of our members in the process of shaping the EU policies with relevance to pensions, healthcare and employment and on the other, through strategic partnerships and collaborations, exchange of expertise and

good practices, with the objective of identifying and promoting new solutions to the current set up of the European social protections systems.

The identification of new solutions for us requires a strong focus on emerging trends and challenges. We fully recognize the importance of the application of new innovative solutions in the provision of social protection. For AEIP, the potential of innovation and new technologies to reshape and optimize performance in the delivery of pensions and healthcare is evident and has to be fostered through adequate measures at all levels of governance.

We also recognize that growing challenges as aging population, high-unemployment and slow economic growth will have huge implications on future spending and require the focus of all actors on new ap-

proaches and priorities to ensure sustainable and productive economic environment in the next decades. New researches demonstrate the need to focus on new areas as mental health and work-life balance policies, which can immensely contribute to workforce productivity but at the same time require a reform in the current legislative framework. AEIP is already taking these trends into consideration and is working actively to ensure its added-value and support to members and partners.

For the upcoming year, we commit to play further an active role in the evolution of the European social protection systems, addressing the present challenges and recognizing alternative solutions for pensions and healthcare. As we have successfully achieved so far, we will aim to engage the AEIP's members and partners in a constant discussion with decision-makers for

defining new approaches and facilitating an exchange of ideas and best practices based on a constructive and open dialogue. We believe our work in that direction has contributed to the realization of a tangible process of transformation towards sustainable, modern and inclusive social protection in Europe.

Mr. Renato Guerriero
AEIP President

Foreword

SECRETARY GENERAL



In 2016, in the context of changing political priorities and shifting approaches, AEIP has remained firmly committed to the core values of paritarism – transparency, solidarity and equal representation in all forms of governance. Following the principles behind this commitment, we have put substantial efforts in contributing to all relevant political decisions at a European level that had the potential to impact the application of these values as defining components of the European social model.

The European Pillar of Social Rights remained a constant topic for 2016 in AEIP. In collaboration with our members and partners we worked extensively to develop and promote our position on the key domains of relevance as we consider that the Consultation provided a good opportunity to take a holistic view of the present acquis and existing social rights. We welcomed the Euro-

pean Commission's approach to engage a wide range of stakeholders for identifying both existing issues and possible solutions, however, remaining conscious that the effectiveness of this approach will be conditional on the level of political commitment coming from the Member States.

Another overarching topic for AEIP in 2016 was the process of promoting the development of the Social Dialogue in social protection at European level. AEIP strongly believes that the new solutions in the context of social protection can be found only through a constructive and inclusive dialogue between governments and the social partners, a commitment we follow since our beginning in 1996.

Besides the key political developments in our core work areas for AEIP 2016 was especially important as it marked our 20th An-

niversary. To note the occasion, AEIP gathered its members, partners and friends for a Conference in Brussels, dedicated to the latest developments in the context of social protection in Europe on the topic of 20 Years of Social Partnership for Europe's citizens. The Conference gathered our members and partners as well as representatives of the European Institutions.

To conclude, AEIP's activities in 2016 also included a period for internal reflection and change, while looking forward with a clear focus on which of our traditional, underlying values need to be preserved. As those values are inherently linked with the concept of Europe as a unified community, this internal process follows the much wider European transformation that just has begun. The next pages will provide you with an overview of our activities in 2016. The good results are as always owed to the commit-

ment of our members and partners. They are based on the core values of AEIP and on the continuous efforts of the AEIP Team.

We sincerely thank all our supporters, members and partners and we look forward to another year of successful cooperations in Europe and for Europe!

Bruno Gabellieri
General Secretary

AEIP – IN THE CORE OF OUR ACTIVITIES

01.

“Paritarian” (from the French “paritaire”; “paritair” in Dutch, “paritätische” in German, “Paritetico” in Italian) means jointly managed on equal or parity basis. In the field of social protection, paritarian institutions are non-for-profit institutions, jointly managed by the social partners. In other words, the governance of these institutions is based on the equal representation of employers and employees in their governing bodies.

All our members are necessarily paritarian organizations and the governance of AEIP fully respects the principle of paritarism upon which the association is based as well as the deep values linked to it. Our main objective since the beginning can be defined as the promotion of paritarism in Europe in the area of social protection and the representation of our members at the European level through the establishment of strategic partnerships.

Throughout the past 20 years, based on the core values of paritarism - solidarity, transparency, and collective bargaining, we developed and adopted strong positions in the main areas of interest relevant for our members, coordinated retirement schemes, pension funds, health and long-term care and providence (occupational injury, disability and death), paid holiday schemes, unemployment benefits and territorial social protection schemes.

“ *All our members are necessarily paritarian organizations and the governance of AEIP fully respects the principles of paritarism upon which the association is based as well as the deep values linked to it.* ”

02.

20 YEARS in Europe

For us, 2016 marked a 20 years anniversary - an important occasion and a milestone that provided AEIP with the opportunity to evaluate its achievements and at the same time, to highlight its significant role - linking the strong values we promoted since 1996 with the present challenges and opportunities of the European reality.

In September 1996, the European Association of Paritarian Institutions was founded in Turin, Italy by four organizations: the French Technical Centre of Provident Institutions (CTIP), the German Federation of corporate sickness funds (BKK-Bundesverband), the Italian pension fund association - Assoprevidenza and the Belgian pension insurance fund – Integrale, united in their common vision of social protection systems, fully in-line with the values of the paritarian management - transparency, solidarity and not-for-profit character.

Since its foundation, the mission of AEIP has been to promote paritarism and to represent and defend the interests of its members – the European paritarian institutions, administered by representatives of

the employers and workers. This balanced management, put into practice by the AEIP members guarantees economic efficiency and at the same time promotes social justice and welfare. AEIP dedicated the past twenty years to foster the development of the paritarian model by welcoming European paritarian entities and by creating a successful lobbying relationship with EU and international institutions as a unique representative of the paritarian model.

Further to its main focus on the promotion of the concept and values of paritarism and the representation and defense of the interests of its members, for 20 years AEIP has evolved as an organization where innovation and ideas for reforms and change are continuously sought and developed through the establishment of strong international collaborations and exchange of experiences.

This is what we claim as one of our achievements in the past two decades - development of a strong network of members and partners, representing different European and international contexts, systems and

approaches to social protection. We saw our role and purpose as an organization in the engagement of different actors in different national contexts, sharing the common values of paritarism, in a continuous process of exchange of experience and expertise.

In the context of the evolvement of the present system, what we have observed in the past years is that complementary social protection systems have developed in the specific context of the national social and labor law, reflected in the different national social systems. However, we have noted that it has been through collective negotiation that the value of solidarity - shared by all European legal systems and

involving employers and employees in the implementation of a common project - has been implemented.

Against this background, social dialogue and modernization of social protection are two fields where AEIP extensively contributed in these 20 years of activity and we will continue to do so in the years to come.



AEIP Working Groups

COMMISSION I – COORDINATED RETIREMENT SCHEMES & COMMISSION II – PENSION FUNDS

03.

Commission I works on EU Coordinated Retirement Schemes in the first pillar of social protection. Commission II encompasses all issues surrounding the paritarian 2nd pillar pension institutions and the related Directive on Institutions for Occupational Retirement Provision (IORP).

In addition to the traditional social security public schemes, it includes both statutory pension schemes managed by social partners and pension schemes which are set up by collective bargaining agreements and work on paritarian basis.

These schemes are either pay-as-you-go, mixed or funded, and fall under the EU coordination rules of social security (EU Regulation 883/04). Commission I monitors the evolution of the EU coordination

system of social security pension schemes and analyses the new challenges and major developments of statutory pensions.

Commission II encompasses all issues surrounding the paritarian 2nd pillar pension institutions and the related Directive on Institutions for Occupational Retirement Provision (IORP).

This Commission is devoted to find ways by which occupational pensions could al-

low for better retirement provisions, with a special focus on the specific problems resulting from the EU legislation and EIOPA (European Insurance and Occupational Pensions Authority) activities in this field.

Commission I works very closely with Commission II on topics concerning mobility of citizens, adequacy and sustainability, equality, gender discrimination and the overall financing of pension systems.

“ Commission I works very closely with Commission II on topics concerning mobility of citizens, adequacy and sustainability, equality, gender discrimination and the overall financing of pension systems.



COMMISSION III – HEALTH AND PROVIDENT FUNDS AND TASK FORCE HEALTH AND CARE

The purpose of this Commission is to promote best practices and raise awareness about current trends in the area of healthcare and the growing cost of the healthcare sector.

Furthermore, the Commission oversees all documentation, position papers and studies developed as part of the activities of the Task Force Health & Care.

ing the overall economic climate affecting the European social protection systems, the topics discussed in the Commission are of ever growing importance.

In the current context of demographic change and an ageing population, includ-

WORKING GROUP OF THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR: COMMISSION IV – PAID HOLIDAY SCHEMES & COMMISSION V – OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

The members of Commission IV operate paid holiday funds which provide benefits both to domestic and posted workers within the construction industry.

AEIP Commission V on Health and Safety at Work focuses on best practices to re-

duce occupational accidents in the construction sector. The members of these Commissions collaborate traditionally with the European Agency for Health and Safety at Work - EU-OSHA.

CHAPTER I. MAIN AEIP DOSSIERS FOR 2016



The concept of the shared European values has faced serious challenges in 2016, reflecting a long process of evolving socio-economic and political trends. The direction of the global economic and social development as well as nation-specific political patterns have created an European environment defined by growing inequalities at all levels of governance, diverging social and economic realities and internal political disbalances. In a period when a consistent and consolidated approach was most needed, the EU has struggled to provide a unified answer to the multiple questions posed to its ambitions for further integration and an “ever closer Union”.

Beyond the challenges of 2016, we have seen also positive trends that are undoubtedly directly linked to continuous efforts at European level – the employment and social situation has been improving in the context of moderate economic recovery. Employment, as a major indicator of economic sustainability has stabilized for key age groups for the first time since 2008, reaching more than 70% in the second half of 2016. Although, admittedly, major discrepancies across regions and countries remain, there is an apparent positive trend in labor markets development as unemployment rates kept falling and youth and long-term unemployment continued to decline. Convergence of labor market conditions continued, due to consistent efforts on the side of national and European Social Partners and the focus on a strengthened Social Dialogue at the European level.

Keeping these opposing trends in mind, 2016 remains defined by the major poli-

tical efforts for striking the thin balance between priorities of the European Union and the individual interests of 28 Member States, between opportunities for economic growth and commitments to social fairness and equality, between short and long-term decision-making. In the process of balancing between the many external and internal factors that will evolve to finally define the Future of Europe, it has become apparent more than ever that the value of any political action lays in its inclusivity and the shared concepts of responsibility and ownership of those concerned.

In the following sections, we have presented our topics of key focus throughout the past year - identifying our shared efforts and actions realized with the support of the AEIP members and partners.

EUROPEAN PILLAR OF SOCIAL RIGHTS

One of the major initiatives of the European Commission for 2016 has been the Public Consultation on the Preliminary Outline of the European Pillar of Social Rights (EPSR). On 8 March, Vice President Dombrovskis and Commissioner Thyssen put forward a first, preliminary outline of the European Pillar. A broad public consultation concluded in December 2016 gave the opportunity to stakeholders to comment on the first draft presented by the European Commission.

As main drivers behind the initiative were indicated the growing trends of divergence in terms of socio-economic development as a direct result of the economic crisis and the need to better adapt the EU acquis to

“ *Beyond the challenges of 2016, we have seen also positive trends that are undoubtedly directly linked to continuous efforts at European level – the employment and social situation has been improving in the context of moderate economic recovery.* ”

the demographic and social challenges of the European context.

AEIP welcomed and supported the initiative as we consider it as a unique opportunity for strengthening the social dialogue and for further developing and spreading the paritarian model across Europe. In practical terms, the review of the present acquis and existing social rights is the first step towards reforming the European social model and ensuring its relevance to the current complex societal and economic environment. In our opinion a structured dialogue, opened to all relevant stakeholders was key in identifying the underlying multi-sectoral complexities, pre-defining the existing challenges of the European social policy framework as well as their possible solutions.

AEIP provided a detailed response to the Public Consultation on the EPSR in December 2016 after an extensive consul-

tation with its members. In its response, AEIP stressed on the importance of the concepts of solidarity, risk sharing, efficiency, good governance and transparency of costs as basis for sustainable European social protection systems. We urged the EU Institutions to actively promote and support these principles and we defined the value of the European Pillar of Social Rights as a tool that could effectively contribute to the actual implementation and enforcement of the social dialogue and of the paritarian model.



The guiding principles in the AEIP response

Based on the shared values of its members, AEIP focused on several key recommendations:

- Any EU initiative adding to the existing EU social acquis should carefully and adequately take into consideration the different social and labour laws of the Member States and the principle of subsidiarity.
- Services, provided as part of the European welfare systems, have to be linked and integrated within a comprehensive framework, allowing for optimal system efficiency in terms of both costs and added-value.
- EU level measures dealing with the consequences of the financial crisis need to be complemented by investment in an adequate and sustainable social protection.
- When addressing economic deficits, the priorities in social policy design should be placed on ensuring the right balance between sustainability and adequacy of social protection systems.

“AEIP presented the EPSR in all working group meetings in 2016 and continuously collected input from its members up to the end of the Consultation in December. This approach ensured an inclusive, broad and fully consistent response.”

Defining the AEIP position

AEIP presented the EPSR in all working group meetings in 2016 and continuously collected input from its members up to the end of the Consultation in December. This approach ensured an inclusive, broad and fully consistent response.

AEIP has extensively consulted not only its members, but its broader network of European partners and representatives of the European Commission. Within the Task Force on Employment we met with representatives of the Social Investment Strategy Unit of DG Employment and Social Affairs and Inclusion, the European Commission in June to discuss the structure of the Preliminary Outline and the detailed steps before the finalization of the Consultation procedure. In the discussion with the European Commission,

the members of the Task Force welcomed the initiative and the list of social rights as included in the preliminary outline and presented their main points of concern as defined at this early stage of the conclusion processes.

Follow up action at European Level

After the submission of our official response to the Public Consultation, AEIP has sent an overview of the main points of its position to members of the European Parliament and continued to follow closely the development of the dossier in 2017.

of the European Semester cycle. These guidelines, in the form of Country Specific Recommendations (CSRs) concerns the following 12-18 months and are based on the Commission's assessment of Member States' medium-term budgetary plans and economic reform programmes. The purpose of the European Semester is to facilitate a process where the EU Member States align their budgetary and economic plans with the objectives and rules set at EU level in order to ensure a shared effort for achieving the social, economic and environmental targets of the Europe 2020 Strategy.

EUROPEAN SEMESTER

Each year, the European Commission provides a set of integrated guidelines on macro-fiscal and macro-structural measures to EU Member States in the context





In other words, the European Semester process serves as a policy coordination tool for strengthening economic governance and policy coordination between Member States. It begins in November each year with the launch of the Annual Growth Survey that sets the broader economic priorities for the upcoming year. The process concludes with the final adoption of the CSRs in July based on the Commission proposal.

As the CSRs are binding and progress towards implementing the recommended measures is closely monitored at European level, AEIP considers the European Semester cycle as an important indication of upcoming reforms of social protection systems at national level. AEIP closely monitors the process and in 2016 prepared a detailed analysis and a comparison overview of the CSRs, specifically on pensions, healthcare and long-term care.

For 2016, we observed that almost half of the CSRs have a clear employment or social component – 114 recommendations were focused on country measures in these fields. As indicated by the Commission, in 2016 less emphasis was placed on pensions and measures for extending working lives, reflecting the previous progress reported in that fields by the Member States. Healthcare remained an issue of growing importance within the 2016 Semester Cycle.

The Semester and our analysis was presented and discussed during all working group meetings of the AEIP members. We believe that with our comprehensive overview of the full Semester Cycle in 2016 has sufficiently informed and prepared the AEIP members for the upcoming budgetary and economic reforms at national level that will define national spending on social protection – a point of key relevance to their operation.

IORP II - DIRECTIVE ON THE ACTIVITIES AND SUPERVISION OF INSTITUTIONS FOR OCCUPATIONAL RETIREMENT PROVISIONS

The 2016 has been a turning-point for the EU pension policy as after 4 years of discussions between the EU Institutions at the end of December 2016 the new “Pension Fund Directive” or better said, the recast of the ‘Directive on the activities and supervision of Institutions for Occupational Retirement Provisions (IORP II Directive¹) has been finally adopted.

In these 4 years of negotiations, AEIP has been at the forefront in advocating for the recognition of the social value of IORPs. Since the 2013 proposal of the European Commission, AEIP underlined the triangular relationship that characterize IORPs. The Institutions for Occupational Retirement Provisions (IORPs) are not-for-profit

social institutions active on the financial markets with the final aim of providing good complementary pensions to workers. IORPs are often established and managed by social partners (employers and trade unions) within the framework of labour agreements. They have a collective nature and are grounded in national Social and Labour Law (SLL). Regarding IORPs as pure financial institutions is therefore fundamentally wrong and it constitutes a misleading basis to start with. AEIP has therefore welcomed the final decision of the European Institutions to recognize the important social goal of IORPs.

AEIP also welcomes the enhanced rules on governance and clear information to scheme members. We commend the efforts of the European Commission in lifting the restrictions on investments in long-term assets.

Thanks to the work of AEIP and other advocacy organizations, the rules are more principles-based than the European Commission's original proposal and therefore, take into account the diversity of occupational pension systems across the EU better. As we claimed since the beginning, it is not appropriate to adopt a 'one-size-fits-all' approach to IORPs and this has been finally recognized by the European legislator.

AEIP has treated this dossier within its internal working group on occupational pensions - Commission II. The revision of the IORP Directive has been at the center of the discussions of AEIP Members since 2013. During these years, AEIP has worked as liaison between its Members and the EU Institutions. The IORP directive has been object of numerous position papers and we proposed numerous amendments to the Members of the European Parliament dealing with this important piece of legislation.

AEIP has also discussed about the IORP II Directive together with other organizations active at EU level on pensions. With 8 partner organizations AEIP formed the Group of 9, representing collectively pensions, EU level social partners and financial market institutions. This co-operation was launched in spring 2012 in connection to the IORP review. The purpose was to follow relevant pension issues and also to act together if feasible. The Group of 9 has been very active on the IORP II Directive, espe-

cially during the negotiations in the European Parliament. In 2015 the Group of 9 produced two joint statements that were circulated among the relevant Members of the European Parliament and published on the press.

AEIP now calls the European Institution to allow IORPs to implement the new rules and provide for some regulatory calm as stipulated in the new Directive. The deadline for the transposition into national legislations is set for January 2019. AEIP looks forward to see the effects of the IORP II implementation.

AEIP ADVOCACY ACTIVITIES WITH EIOPA

AEIP is involved in a constant dialogue with the European Insurance and Occupational pensions Authority (EIOPA). Throughout 2016, AEIP strictly followed activities of EIOPA and of its Occupational Pensions Stakeholder Group (OPSG) in the field of occupational pensions. Among the dossiers treated in 2016, a particular attention was devoted to EIOPA's opinion on a Common Framework for Risk Assessment and Transparency for IORPs: this opinion represents the final output of the work started in 2013 to resolve issues identified in the EIOPA's Quantitative Impact Study for IORP. The opinion advises the EU Institution to strengthen the IORP II Directive introducing a European framework for risk assessment and transparency based on com-

mon valuation rules and standardised risk assessment (thus using a holistic balance sheet – HBS). AEIP keeps firmly criticizing the development of the Holistic Balance Sheet (HBS) by EIOPA, and believes that this instrument is not an adequate tool for prudential supervision. We believe that it should be neither used for capital requirements nor as an information tool towards scheme members. In 2016 many efforts were made by AEIP and its members to advocate towards this direction.

AEIP has also contributed to EIOPA's work providing its expertise in the field of communication to scheme's members. In March 2016 AEIP answered to EIOPA "consultation paper on good practices on communication tools and channels for communicating to occupational pension scheme members". The improvement of different communication tools and channels is indeed of pivotal importance for us and our members. On the one hand we believe that a tailor-made information and a "layered" approach can widely contribute in improving communication to scheme members, on the other we stressed that a cost-efficiency assessment and the proportionality principles should always be taken in due account.

We look forward in continuing our constructive cooperation with EIOPA in the upcoming years.



PAN-EUROPEAN PERSONAL PENSION PRODUCT

Since 2012, AEIP has been closely following the development of the Pan-European Personal Pension Product (PEPP) and provided inputs to the European Institutions and to EIOPA in several occasions. Following the European Commission's initial request for technical advice on ways to develop an EU single market for personal pensions (July 2012), EIOPA subsequently published a Discussion Paper (May 2013) and preliminary analysis of this topic (February 2014). The Commission followed up on this analysis by issuing a Call for Advice to EIOPA (July 2014).

EIOPA focused its advice on analyzing how to introduce a personal pension product through a 2nd regime Regulation and its potential role in fostering an efficient Capital Markets Union. EIOPA published its



Consultation Paper on the topic in July 2015, coining the term for its proposed product as the «PEPP». AEIP answered to the consultation and thereafter participated to EIOPA's Public Event on Personal Pensions in Frankfurt on 7 September 2015, together with other 130 guests from all relevant sectors (including consumer representatives, the insurance, asset management, occupational pensions, and banking sectors), thus providing EIOPA with insights that helped them to prepare their final advice to the European Commission on the introduction of a standardized PEPP.

Following up to the results achieved with these consultations, in June 2016 EIOPA submitted to the European Commission its final advice on the development of an EU Single Market for personal pension products (PPP), concluding that the PEPP

would be capable of meeting EIOPA's objectives of improving the European market for PPPs in the most efficient manner compared to the other possible approaches.

In October 2016 the European Commission launched a public consultation on a potential EU personal pension framework, building on EIOPA's advice and widen the range of possible options and stakeholders consulted. AEIP answered to this consultation and fully supported the goal of delivering sustainable and adequate pensions in the EU. In our answer we emphasized that while the 1st pillar remains the largest part of retirement coverage in most Member States, there is a full support from us and our members to the general aim of having multi-pillar pension systems in the EU and the development of a strong EU framework for supplementary pension savings.

We stressed that the overall aim of this EU initiative should be to reduce the pension gap, while safeguarding the existing well-functioning pension systems: today, a majority of employees do not have access to supplementary pension savings. In

order to reach this goal, we fear that the introduction of a new standardized 3rd pillar product will not be sufficient, but it could improve supplementary retirement savings in those countries where there is no or not a well-developed personal pension system, or there is limited workplace pension coverage.

AEIP highlighted that all personal pension products, and not only an EU-wide pension solution, should be safe, transparent and cost-effective. If an EU product (i.e. the PEPP) will be proposed, it should be a true long-term pension product, allowing providers to generate long-term liabilities and incentivizing consumers to save for a long period. A proper consideration of the decumulation phase and of minimum holding period is needed, as these are key features for pension products.

AEIP underlined that any risk of harmonization towards the bottom must be avoided: any new regulation on private pensions should include a principle-based framework legislation that allows Member States to apply additional rules aimed at increasing

the duty of care towards consumers. Moreover, we underlined that new rules cannot by any means offer an opting-out nor contracting-out opportunity to the national 1st and 2nd pillar pensions.

All in all, AEIP believes that the EU Institutions should focus their efforts in further promoting and spreading collective occupational pensions that, compared to 3rd pillar products based on a voluntary individual membership and sold on a retail basis, have clear advantages.

DEEPER AND FAIRER EUROPEAN MONETARY UNION

Facing the economic crisis has pushed the European Commission to put the further deepening of economic and monetary union (EMU) on the top of its priorities. The Commission's work on completing the EMU builds on the 2015 Five Presidents' Report, which set out four areas where further work is needed. AEIP and its members are deeply concerned by the overall economic and financial environment. Among the areas covered by this roadmap towards a

“ We emphasize that while the 1st pillar remains the largest part of retirement coverage in most Member States, there is a full support from us and our members to the general aim of having multi-pillar pension systems in the EU and the development of a strong EU framework for supplementary pension savings.

complete EMU, AEIP has paid particular attention to the actions related to the Economic Union, as the revamp of the EU Semester (see section on the European Semester, page 9) and has always supported the idea that the EU should have a greater focus on employment and social performance.

CAPITAL MARKETS UNION

In September 2015, the EU published the Green Paper on Capital Markets Union (CMU) - the plan of the European Commission that aims at creating deeper and more integrated capital markets in the 28 Members States of the EU. With the CMU, the Commission explores ways of reducing fragmentation in financial markets, diversifying financing sources, strengthening cross-border capital flows and improving access to finance for businesses, particularly SMEs. In the Green Paper, occupational pension funds are explicitly mentioned among the long-term investors. Indeed, long-term financing often forms an important part of paritarian institutions' invest-

ment activities, due to the proper match thereof with the long duration and maturities of their liabilities. In October 2015, the European Commission released an Action Plan as follow-up to the Green Paper which was discussed during AEIP Commission II meetings. Throughout 2016, AEIP Commission II analyzed the most relevant issues of this initiative, specifically focusing on the PEPP initiative.

FINANCIAL TRANSACTION TAX

The enhanced cooperation on the Financial Transaction Tax (FTT), as proposed in early 2013 by the European Commission, also includes transactions made by occupational pension funds. Since then, AEIP has been constantly monitoring the development of this file and advocating for the permanent exclusion of occupational pension funds from the scope of the Council Directive. So far, a final agreement between the 11 Member States has not been reached. We will continue working on this dossier in cooperation with members and partners.

SOLVENCY II DIRECTIVE

The Financial Services Action Plan (FSAP) adopted in 1999 was aimed at establishing an internal market for financial services and set the context for the adoption of new requirements on capital adequacy for banks (Capital Requirements Directive based upon Basel II) and on solvency for insurance companies (Solvency II) in Europe.

These legislative processes were influenced to a great extent by the financial crisis in 2008 and following a new understanding on the functioning of the European system for supervision. A new framework for macro prudential supervision was put into place, which increasingly focuses on economic developments at the macroeconomic level in order to ensure the oversight of the behavior of financial institutions, their long-term financial sustainability and the overall mitigation of systemic risk.

In the context of these rapidly changing economic and institutional developments, the revision of the Solvency Directive became more pressing and stressed the need for a new solvency regime based on a risk based approach and a higher level of harmonization across Europe.

The Solvency II Directive was adopted in November 2009 and following the impacts of the financial crisis and the consequent projections concerning capital markets, amended by the so-called "Omnibus II Directive" in 2014, which was aimed at including additional provisions for high quality risk management as basis of the insurance solvency regime. This new prudential regime finally came into force on 1 January 2016 and is concerning all European insurers and reinsurers.

AEIP Engagement

Not-for-profit insurance companies based on collective occupational agreements, such as paritarian institutions in France (e.g. CTIP) fall within the scope of the Solvency regime. Therefore, AEIP followed closely the development of the dossier since the process of revision was initiated at the level of the European Commission.

In 2012, AEIP has extensively contributed to the EU working group aimed at defining an appropriate calibration of the standard capital requirements for health and income protection schemes. AEIP also committed to the actual application of the proportionality principle in order to avoid inefficient costs for small and medium-sized undertakings.

In July 2016, a review of the Solvency II delegated acts was launched by the European Commission as a post-evaluation of this new regime. EIOPA were asked by the Commission to provide technical advices in two sets - one planned for the end of October 2017 and one in February 2018.

AEIP and CTIP were working closely on developing inputs in relation to these developments at the level of EIOPA, including as part of the upcoming EIOPA's request for comments on the review of specific items in this Solvency II Delegated Regulation.





The general position of AEIP in this stage of the process remains to stress on the importance of the sound implementation of the proportionality principle for small and medium-sized enterprises (SME's), focusing on provisions for simplifications and aiming for less complexity and administrative burden. AEIP also addresses concerns on volume measure for premium risk for renewable health insurance plans and on calibration of the capital requirements for income protection insurance schemes.

For AEIP, it is also of high importance to stress that pension funds are excluded from the scope of application of the Solvency II Directive due to several important differences with insurance undertakings and that security for a supplementary pension scheme cannot only be obtained by solvency capital but by other mechanisms as well – as pointed out by AEIP in its early Common Position on the Application of Solvency II Rules on Pension Funds from 2006.

OECD PROJECT ON INSTITUTIONAL INVESTORS AND LONG-TERM INVESTMENTS

AEIP is an active member of the OECD Project on institutional investors and long-term investments. Launched in 2012, this project aims at facilitating long-term investments by institutional investors such as pension funds, insurance companies and sovereign wealth funds, addressing both potential regulatory obstacles and market failures.

In particular, AEIP claimed for a better recognition of the role of social partners in setting up and running pension schemes. Moreover, it suggested the need for more studies on the impact of accounting standards and market consistent valuation of assets and liabilities on long-term investments.

DISCUSSIONS ON THE NATIONAL PENSION REFORMS

Guaranteeing a proper exchange of information between our members is central for the functioning of AEIP.

One of the core functions of Commission I&II has been to also serve as a platform for exchanges of information in the field of pensions. The recent financial crisis and the actual demographic and societal challenges have pushed most European countries to reform their national pension systems and pension reforms are still on top of governments' agendas in the majority of the EU Member States.

The AEIP Commissions I&II discussed about the most relevant legislative and non-legislative initiatives undertaken at national level for reforming pension systems. In parallel with a constant monitoring of legislative reforms, the industry

also plays a pivotal role in shaping pension systems. Many guidelines, recommendations and other non-binding documents are produced by the pension industry and AEIP guarantees that such good practices are known across Europe. In 2016, for instance, one of our member organizations – the Dutch Federation of Pension Funds – presented a booklet on administrative costs initiating a discussion with members of Commissions I&II on similar initiatives in other countries.

“AEIP, in collaboration with social partners carried out advocacy activities towards the prevention of the risk of social dumping in the framework of the enforcement of the Posting of Workers Directive.”

THE POTENTIAL IMPACT OF BREXIT ON PENSION FUNDS

The 2016 has been characterized by a major political challenge: the United Kingdom's referendum on the withdrawal from the European Union, commonly called «Brexit». This was the result of a majority of British voters deciding to leave the EU in the referendum on the issue on 23 June 2016. When the UK Prime Minister will officially trigger article 50 of the Treaty on the European Union, the UK and the EU will have two years to find an agreement on the terms of withdrawal.

AEIP analyzed in details the ongoing process and advised its members on the potential results of the formal procedure for the UK's withdrawal from the EU - reflecting internally on the possible consequences of Brexit on occupational pension funds within the AEIP Commissions. Fol-

lowing our analysis, on one hand, Brexit will imply changes in the political equilibrium within the EU institutions, and in particular within the Council. On the other hand, the exit of the UK from the EU Single Market will have important social and economic consequences for the EU and imposes further institutional and structural risks for the functioning of the Union. Lower funding ratios, volatility of financial markets, impacts on growth and jobs are just a few of the possible economic consequences that might affect the overall European investment horizon.

REVISION OF THE POSTING OF WORKERS DIRECTIVE

Together with the announced revision of the Social Security Coordination Regulation (Regulation 883/04), the targeted revision of the Posting of Workers Directive is one of the two pillars of the Labour Mo-

bility Package, a set of new initiatives of the European Commission aimed at supporting labour mobility and improving the capacity of Member States to prevent and fight social dumping, frauds and abuses, with regards to the posting of workers and the entitlement to welfare benefits.

In March 2016, the European Commission proposed a revision of the rules set by the EU Directive 96/71/EC to ensure they remain fit for purpose and to introduce the principle of “same pay for the same job in the same place”. As a specific form of temporary labour mobility, posting has been a prominent topic of public and political debate during years. AEIP deals with this dossier within its Working Group of the Construction sector. The impact of posting on domestic labour markets is indeed much stronger in specific sectors and Member States. The construction sector counts alone almost the 50% of the total intra-EU posting. Moreover, posting is often linked to broader issues, such as the labour market effects of EU enlargement and, here in particular, restrictions on the free movement of workers, unfair competition based on labour costs and ‘social dumping’, amongst others.

In 2016 AEIP has engaged with EU Officials from the Directorate General Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion of the European Commission, and has closely followed the discussions within the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union. AEIP members are further

discussing the next steps for promoting our position on the most prominent issues with respect to duration for posting, remuneration and sub-contracting.

EU SERVICES CARD

In 2016 the European Commission included in its work programme a new initiative aimed at introducing an EU Services Card. The idea is based on the consideration that in some important sectors, service providers still face significant obstacles when going cross-border, hampering cross-border trade and investment with negative effects on consumers and industry. This is the case particularly in service sectors such as business services (e.g. engineering firms, IT consultants, organizers of trade shows) and the construction sector where service providers can often not easily pursue business opportunities in other Member States.

As the proposal on the Services Card was planned to cover the construction industry, it was especially relevant to the AEIP members, focusing their activities in the construction sector.

On the initiative of one its German members - SOKA BAU and after an extensive consultation within the AEIP Working Group on the Construction sector, AEIP sent join a position on 26 July to the European Commission, directed to Valdis Dombrovskis, Vice-President of the European Commission, Jyrki Katainen, Vice



“ Taking into consideration the conclusions of AEIP’s assessment and the concerns which have been expressed on the side of the AEIP members from the construction sector, AEIP stressed that the Services Passport is not suited to document compliance of service providers with the labour and social security regulation in a host Member State.

“ In our joint position we raised several concerns with regard to the Services e-Card initiative, namely over the safeguard of a basic level of monitoring with regard to the social rights and restricting the existing mechanisms of control which can ultimately lead to a potential increase in fraudulent behavior in the cross-border provision of services.

President of the European Commission, and Marianne Thyssen, EU Commissioner of Employment, Social Affairs, Skills and Labor Mobility.

In our joint position we raised several concerns with regard to the Services e-Card initiative, namely over the safeguard of a basic level of monitoring with regard to the social rights and restricting the existing mechanisms of control which can ultimately lead to a potential increase in fraudulent behavior in the cross-border provision of services. We concluded that from the AEIP’s perspective the Services e-Card cannot be an appropriate instrument to include any aspects with regard to the posting of workers and should in no case constrain the functionality of paritarian institutions.

Two official replies were received from DG GROW – the first in August and the second,

a more detailed answer, in September 2016, addressing out main concerns as expressed in the AEIP position.

The main argument of the European Commission for pushing the initiative forward were focused on its potential for limiting the administrative barriers in the cross-border provision of services. As according to DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, the “once only” principle would ensure that there will be no need for multiple requests for information and verification, provided already in the home Member State. The functioning of the common electronic repository of documents by the home country would guarantee easily available and verifiable information, provided in a transparent and accessible manner.

In December 2016 AEIP worked on this file together with the European social partners

of the construction sector - the European Federation of Building and Woodworkers (EFBWW) and the European Construction Industry Federation (FIEC). On 23 December 2017 a joint letter was sent to all Commissioners and their chiefs of cabinets.

Taking into consideration the conclusions of AEIP’s assessment and the concerns which have been expressed on the side of the AEIP members from the construction sector, AEIP stressed that the Services Passport is not suited to document compliance of service providers with the labour and social security regulation in a host Member State. The proposed measure raises deep concerns for the paritarian institutions, as, in our opinion, without the availability of reliable information and especially without an effective procedure of prior notice, such an instrument would introduce barriers to safeguarding a ba-

sic level of monitoring at national level with regard to social rights. We fear that a restriction of the existing mechanisms of control will substantially increase the risk of fraudulent behavior in the cross-border provision of services. On the contrary, in AEIP's view an enhancement of effective checks and monitoring mechanisms at national level is required. AEIP emphasized that a Services Passport is not an appropriate instrument to cover any aspects with regard to the posting of workers and should in no case constrain the functionality of paritarian institutions.

Therefore, AEIP asked the European Commission to refrain from introducing a legislative proposal on this matter in general and for the construction sector in particular.

EU PLATFORM TO ENHANCE COOPERATION IN THE PREVENTION AND DETERRENCE OF UNDECLARED WORK

AEIP was extensively involved during the initial stage of the European platform to enhance cooperation in tackling undeclared work, providing an elaborate proposal for amendments to the rapporteur in the European Parliament - Mr Girorgi Pirinski, S&D in April 2015.

In March 2016, the Parliament endorsed the draft EU legislation establishing the European platform followed by its official launch in May. The main objective of the Platform, as stated, is to improve the Member States' capacities to tackle undeclared work in its various forms and is envisaged as a network of enforcement bodies involved in the fight against undeclared work.

In order to follow up on the developments and to ensure a sufficient level of engagement on this dossier, the AEIP members of the Working Group on the Construction Sector met Mr Pirinski after the first meeting of the platform was held in October. He introduced the latest developments and the adopted Work Programme of the Platform to the AEIP members, who had the opportunity to comment and discuss on the progress achieved in that field.

AEIP welcomed the establishment of the European Platform to enhance Cooperation in the Prevention and Deterrence of Undeclared Work and would like to see an enhancement of its competence and operation in terms of coordination and exchange of experiences involving all MS. The topics is of particular relevance to the AEIP members as bogus self-employment as well as other atypical forms of employment have the potential to undermine the collective bargaining and the collective interest of trade unions and employers' organizations. In many cases it could lead to a circumvention of labour law standards, social dumping, lower standards and wages, unfair competition and an increase of instability in terms of job security.

PROMOTING MENTAL HEALTH AT THE EUROPEAN LEVEL

Mental health is becoming a priority at EU level in the past decade. The European Commission adopted, in 2005, the Green Paper "Improving the mental health of the population". The purpose of the Green Paper was to launch a debate with the European institutions, Governments, health professionals, stakeholders in other sectors, civil society, including patient organizations, and the research community about the relevance of mental health for the EU, the need for a strategy at EU-level and the most pressing priorities.

The outcome of the Consultation process was the European Pact for Mental Health and Well-being, launched in 2008.

“ Since 2012, AEIP participates as an official partner in the Healthy Workplaces campaigns launched and coordinated by the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA).





Economic impacts and relevance to AEIP

Psychosocial risks impact both health and work performance-related outcomes with major economic implications for social protection systems and labor markets. The economic consequences of ill-mental health—mainly in the form of lost productivity—are estimated to average 3–4% of gross national product in European Union countries. A report funded by the European Commission indicates that mental health issues at work lead to immediate losses in productivity through absenteeism or presenteeism, pose a risk of unemployment for those affected. The compound effect is estimated to be 610 billion euros per year resulting from a shrinking labour force, productivity losses and increased public spending and burden on social protection systems. By preventing or treating mental health at the work place, interventions have the potential to reduce risks, generating major cost savings.

AEIP's position and activities

It has become imperative for all managements and governments to recognize the workplace as both a major factor in development of mental and physical health problems and as a platform for the introduction and development of effective preventative measures. An effective policy approach will mean a wider support and involvement of the social partners and the social dialogue as an instrument to link policy action to actual needs on the ground.

In 2016, AEIP took the coordination of the recently established European Alliance for Mental Health / Employment and Work (EUMH Alliance) - an informal co-operation of partners on the specific issue of the economic impacts of mental health. The aim of the Alliance is to raise awareness for this issue and to stimulate policy development on EU level. All partners recognize its importance and incorporate it in their own, broader health policy agendas. At this point, the Alliance is comprised of six partners and focuses activities towards joint analysis and research, exchange of expertise and best practices and joint representation on topics of key interests to partners and members.

As an additional part of its activities on mental health, AEIP became an official partner to the European Joint Action on Mental Health and Well-being and participated to all meetings and initiatives organized as part of the initiative. The purpose of the Joint Action was the development of a “more rigorous and comprehensive knowledge on mental health and well-being in the EU and the development of an endorsed framework for action in 2016”. The Joint Action involved a wide range of actors at various levels of governance and produced an in-depth analysis of available and potential approaches, concluding that there is an apparent need to address mental health within a broader framework, employing an integrated approach as mental health determinants lie in many non-health policy sectors – social protection, education, employment, etc.

As a coordinator of the EUMH Alliance and as an official partner in the Joint Action, AEIP organized a side event during the final conference of the Joint Action in January 2016 on the topic of “The role of stakeholders in defining the European Mental Health Agenda”. The event was focused on the potential points of cooperation between the stakeholder organizations and the European Commission in defining the policy action on Mental Health Policies in the process of defining policy approaches. A roundtable with representative of the Disability Unit of DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion and key actors on the topics of mental health at European level, ensured an actual practical relevance of the discussion.

Based on the positive results of our initial work on the topic, AEIP will continue to establish further collaborations with partners and European institutions, in order to strengthen its visibility and broaden its impact on the topic of occupational mental health. A particular priority for which we laid down the basis in 2016 is collaborating on the topic with the European sectoral Social Partners.

Work with the Slovak Presidency

During the conference of the Slovak Presidency of the Council of EU on the topic of “Better preventive culture in a new labor market that took place” in October 2016, the Secretary General of AEIP, Bruno Gabellieri provided a presentation on Occupational mental health: the growing

involvement of actors in the development of preventative and treatment strategies for employees. The presentation included introduction of the work of the European Alliance on Mental Health and the involvement of AEIP on the topic.

PROVISION OF HEALTHCARE SERVICES IN CROSS-BORDER SITUATIONS

The provision of cross-border healthcare is regulated at European level by two distinct sets of legislation: the Regulation on the coordination of social security systems and the Directive on the application of patients' rights in cross-border healthcare. The Directive clarifies on the rights of patients to seek reimbursement for health-

care received in another member state to the extent these services would cost in their affiliated country and relates to the right of free movement - provisions ultimately contribute to the efforts for completing the internal market.

The Directive came into force in 2011 and it was due to be transposed by October 2013. 26 countries did not complete the transposition on time. At the moment, the Commission is focused on assessing how transposition measures were implemented and the extent to which the Member States included barriers to the Directive full enforcement in their national legislations.

AEIP assessment

AEIP closely observed the development of the dossier and noted several important implications to its members. According to the AEIP assessment, there is a need for improved transparency and wider outreach on patient's rights, with a particular focus on risk groups. Reports indicate that fewer

than 20% of the Europeans are aware of their entitlement for receiving cross-border healthcare and reimbursement of expenses and fewer than 10% are aware of the existence of National Contact Points that are created with the exact purpose to provide information and support.

In addition, mechanisms ensuring vulnerable patient groups can exercise their right of movement have to be in place. In that respect, the upfront payment requirement limits the equal access to cross-border healthcare, especially to low-income groups. A voucher system could be a solution and should be considered at the later stages of the development of the system.

A remaining concern for AEIP is the incomplete transposition process at national level and the differences in transposition measures that lead to persisting legal uncertainties and procedural unclearities. As the European system is supposedly functioning as an integrated mechanism, this is disproportionality affecting the overall quality of implementation.

AEIP sees the promotion of cross-border healthcare as especially relevant for border regions where cooperation can increase cost-effectiveness, efficiency and quality of services. Measures for ensuring higher cooperation in areas where there is an actual unavailability of services in local context has to be considered as priorities, especially in cases as critical care – remote and rural areas could be linked through the establishment of dedicated centers, covering multiple cross-border regions.

Current trends as the advancement of tele-medicine and of e-Health services have to be factored in the context of cross-border healthcare as they could further contribute and facilitate cross-border mobility and limitation of service provision gaps.

In the context of the dossier, AEIP stresses once again that healthcare has to be considered as an investment, effectively contributing the efficient allocation and long-term sustainability of social protection systems at national level



← Showroom AEIP
20 years 8 sept, 2016



CHAPTER II.

CONFERENCES AND EVENTS IN 2016



xxx
xxx
xxx

AEIP 20 YEARS CELEBRATION – CONFERENCE IN BRUSSELS

The first panel of the Conference gathered speakers representing organizations and institutions actively involved in the dialogue between social partners at European level. The panel discussion focused on the added-value of the established links between the social partners and the national and European institutions and explored the remaining challenges and potential for its future enforcement.

The second panel was dedicated to the new technological revolution in the context of healthcare and pensions, focusing on the latest evolutions in these sectors and their potential social impact. The participants to the panel, representing key players in the industry and services introduced their innovative products and approaches and discussed the newest trends and emerging challenges.

We organized a showroom for our participants where they were able to see concrete examples of innovation in healthcare.

“ We celebrated the 20th Anniversary of the AEIP in Brussels with a high-level Conference in Brussels that took place on 8 September and gathered more than 150 of our members, partners and friends.





AEIP ANNUAL VENICE CONFERENCE - INNOVATIVE APPROACHES IN DELIVERING PENSIONS AND HEALTHCARE

AEIP held the 8th edition of its Venice Conference on the topic of Innovative approaches in delivering pensions and healthcare and brought together representatives of the main actors driving forward the evolution of pensions and healthcare systems in Europe. We focused on the latest developments in these sectors and their social impact.

The Conference took place on 4th November in Venice, Italy in the premises of Fondazione Querini Stampalia and was supported by our long-term partners Previnet & Previmedical and PSYA as well as the pension fund of the Veneto Region – Solidarietà Veneto.

LESSONS AT SPO

Throughout 2016, the AEIP team provided lectures to pension funds' manager and other pension professionals on a comparative overview of the pension systems around the world.

The SPO is the Dutch training center for pension of the Dutch pension industry.



8TH AEIP-NCCMP-MEBCO TRANSATLANTIC CONFERENCE

The 8th Transatlantic Conference, organized by AEIP in cooperation with the American National Coordinating Committee for Multiemployer Plans (NCCMP) and the Multi-employer Benefit Plan Council of Canada (MEBCO) took place between 16-17th June in Rome, Italy.

The Transatlantic Conference gathered around 100 participants from America, Canada and Europe and touched upon an array of topics related to social protection in a transatlantic context. The Conference brought together social protection institutions, government representatives, social partners and insurance representatives

from both sides of the Atlantic with the purpose to exchange good practices and to discuss the current developments in the USA, Canada and Europe as well as possible solutions to the present global challenges. Traditionally, the conference addressed three main topics in the light of the challenges posed by the economic crisis and social-economic and demographic trends in 3 different sessions: healthcare and social innovation, occupational pensions and social dialogue.

CHAPTER III.

PARTNERSHIPS



“ Since 2012, AEIP participates as an official partner in the Healthy Workplaces campaigns launched and coordinated by the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA).

World Pension Alliance

The World Pension Alliance (WPA) includes the main advocacy associations representing pension plans and providers at the international level, including Europe, the US, Canada, Latin America, and Australia.

AEIP was one of the founding members of the WPA, which began its existence in 2011 under the name of Global Pension Alliance.

In 2016 the network developed its governing rules, appointed a Chair and a Coordinator. Today, through its members the WPA represents more than 400 million people covered by retirement plans, and roughly 5000 pension providers managing more than 7 trillion US\$.

The primary long-term objective of the WPA is to be recognized at the international level as the common voice of the not-for-profit pension industry representing millions of retirement income plan members.

AEIP assists its partners towards the long-term objectives of the World Pension Alliance and promotes the voice of the not-for-profit pension community with international decision makers.

Transatlantic Partnerships

The National Coordinating Committee for Multiemployer Plans (NCCMP), The Multi-employer Benefit Plan Council of Canada (MEBCO) and AEIP signed a protocol in 2008 with the purpose of better coordinating their lobbying activities where common interests are shared, and particularly to raise the voice of Paritarism.

NCCMP is an American advocacy organization of national, regional and local multiemployer pension and health and welfare plans, International and Local Unions, national and local employer associations, individual local employers, and multiemployer fund professionals. MEBCO is a Canadian federal no-share capital corporation, operating on a not-for-profit basis. MEBCO represents the inte-

rests of Canadian multiemployer pension and benefits plans.

Under this protocol of cooperation, AEIP, NCCMP and MEBCO organize a joint conference each year, bringing together social protection institutions, government representatives, social partners, banking representatives and industry employees from both sides of the Atlantic, to exchange good practices and to discuss the current situation in the USA, Canada and Europe and possible. The conference takes place alternatively in Europe and in North America.

Group of 9

An informal working group on pension-related matter was set by AEIP and other eight key stakeholders representing pension industry, EU-level social partners and financial markets institutions, in spring 2012, in concomitance with the revision of the review of the IORP Directive.

The purpose of this cooperation is to exchange information and to follow relevant pension issues, also acting together when feasible. The Members of the G9 are: AEIP, BUSINESSEUROPE, the European Centre of Employers and Enterprises providing Public Services (CEEPP), the European Association of Public Sector Pension Institutions (EAPSPI), the European Fund and Asset Management Association (EFAMA), the European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC), the European Private Equity and Venture Capital Association (EVCA), Pen-

sionsEurope, the European Association of Craft, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (UEAPME).

Protocol of Cooperation with Pensions Europe

In September 2015, Pensions Europe and AEIP signed a Protocol of Cooperation, recognizing the shared value of an ongoing dialogue and open exchange of ideas to meet common challenges and objectives, in the field of workplace pensions. The overall objective of the cooperation is to provide an added-value for all the beneficiaries of the ongoing and future activities, including companies, their employees, and of course pensioners. With the aim of fully addressing the set objective, AEIP and Pensions Europe agreed to share ideas and experiences in order to learn from each other and to promote common positions, when appropriate.



Social Economy Europe (SEE)

Social Economy Europe is the EU-level representative institution for the social economy. It aims at promoting and reinforcing the political and legal recognition of the social economy cooperatives, mutual societies, associations and foundations at EU level.

Since June 2014, AEIP is an official member of the Social Economy Europe, taking part all meetings and aiming to contribute to the initiatives and activities of the organization.

Partnership with the International Association of Mutual Benefit Health Insurance Societies (AIM)

AEIP works in partnership with AIM on issues related to long-term care as part of a joint working group chaired by a representative of AEIP, Mr. Bruno Gabellieri, and a representative of AIM, Ms. Rachelle Kaye.

To strengthen the partnership, representatives of AEIP and AIM cooperate on regular basis to better define the common interests and possible areas of cooperation.

European Alliance on Mental Health in all Policies

Launched in late 2013, the European Alliance on Mental Health in All Policies brings together six founding partner organizations - AEIP, Mental Health Europe, the European Public Health Alliance, the Dutch Association of Mental Health and Addiction (GGZ Netherlands), EuroHealthNet and AIM.

The Alliance is an informal cooperation around the specific issue of the economic impacts on mental health and the role it plays in raising labor productivity as means to support an exit of the economic crisis.












The Alliance aims at raising awareness of mental health disorders as an emerging risk for social protection and economic growth and to stimulate policy development at the EU level.



Scientific COUNCIL*

The Scientific Council of AEIP is composed of 21 professors and advisors from 9 different countries. It meets once a year to discuss innovative ideas with regard to social protection and the role of paritarian management at the European level in particular.

The Scientific Council advises AEIP on current affairs, produces studies, contributes to draft agendas of AEIP events and gives relevant presentations. With the growing network of AEIP, the Scientific Council is expanding too.

	BELGIUM Prof. Dr. Yves Stevens / <i>Katholieke Universiteit Leuven</i> Prof. Dr. Yves Jorens / <i>Universiteit Gent</i> Mrs. Lut Sommerijns / <i>Loyens & Loeff</i>		PORTUGAL Prof. Arlindo Donario / <i>Universidade Autónoma de Lisboa</i>
	FRANCE Mr. Philippe Laigre / <i>Philippe Laigre et associés</i> Prof. Philippe Coursier / <i>Université de Montpellier 1</i> Mr. Pierre Chaperon & Mrs. Cécile Vokleber / <i>AGIRC-ARRCO</i>		SWITZERLAND Mr. Jacques-André Schneider / <i>LHA, Suisse</i> Mr. David Pittet
	GERMANY Prof. Heinz-Dietrich Steinmeyer / <i>Westfälische Wilhelms Universität Münster</i> Dr. Janda & Prof. Eichenhofer / <i>Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena</i> Mr. Manfred Walser & Mrs. Dana Schäfer / <i>SOKA BAU</i> Prof. Christian Müller - Graff / <i>Heidelberg</i>		LITHUANIA Prof. Dr. Alvydas Pumputis / <i>Mykolas Romeris University</i>
	GREECE Prof. Dr. Konstantinos Kremalis / <i>Kremalis Law Firm</i>		ESTONIA TARTU University / Prof. Dr. Volli Kalm
	ITALY Prof. Pasquale Sandulli / <i>Sapienza Università di Roma</i> Prof. Federico Spandonaro & Mr Michele Faioli / <i>Università degli Studi di Roma "Tor Vergata"</i>		HUNGARY ELTE LAW University / Prof. Dr. Miklós Király
	THE NETHERLANDS Prof. Erik Lutjens / <i>Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam</i>		

* as of 30/06/2015

Members*

Through its Protocols of Cooperation, AEIP has established partnerships with universities and with social protection organizations outside of Europe who are dealing with similar issues. AEIP has regular contact with these institutions and collaborates with them in the organizations of various conferences and seminars.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS



Austria



Belgium



Finland



France



France



France



France



Germany



Germany

ASSEUROPA
Assoprevidenza / MEFOP /
Assofondipensione

Italy



Luxemburg



The Netherlands



Switzerland

AFFILIATE MEMBERS



Finland



Ireland



Italy



Romania



Spain

TASK FORCE MEMBERS



Belgium



France



France



France



France



France



France

* as of 30/06/2015



TASK FORCE MEMBERS

 France	 France	 France	 France	 Italy	 Italy	 The Netherlands
 France						



AEIP NETWORK

 Australia	 Belgium	 Bulgaria	 Switzerland	 France (HPGM)	 France	 Greece
 Greece	 Hungary (ONYF)	 Italy	 Italy	 Latvia	 Poland	 Spain (CNEPS)
 USA						



AEIP INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

 Canada	 USA	 Belgium				
---	--	---	--	--	--	--

Managing Board

The AEIP Managing Board is paritarian in nature and is made up of the Associate Members which nominate two delegates. One delegate represents the employees while the other delegate represents the employers. The officials of the Managing Board are elected for a two year term. The President of the Managing Board, who is also the President of the Association, changes every two years and his position also alternates from an employee to an employer representative.

2015 – 2017 AEIP Presidency:

Mr Renato Guerriero

(CANDRIAM, BE), Global Head of European Client Relations and Member of the Executive Committee of Candriam Investors Group. For the 2015 – 2017 term, he will be representing the employers' side according to the paritarian management rotation of AEIP management.



Bruno Gabellieri
Secretary General



PRESIDENT
Mr. Renato Guerriero
BIL PENSION FUND
(Candriam)
Belgium



VICE PRESIDENT
Mr. Bernd Merz
BG BAU
Germany



TREASURER
Mr. Michel Keller
OCIRP
France



SECRETARY OF THE BOARD
Ms. Bianca Maria Baron
CNCE
Italy



Simone Miotto
Economic and Financial
Affairs Advisor



Aleksandra Kaydzhyska
Health Affairs Advisor



Cécile Henrotte
Office Manager

AEIP Secretariat

Photos: ©Philippe Chagnon / cocktail-santé

Bruno Gabellieri
Secretary General
Bruno.Gabellieri@aeip.net

Working Areas
Supervision of the Team

Simone Miotto
Economic and Financial Affairs
Advisor
simone.miotto@aeip.net

Working Areas
Prudential and Supervisory Issues;
EIOPA; Solvency; Pension Funds;
Responsible Local Investments;
Construction Sector Issues;
Task Force Metal Workers

Task Force(s)
Construction Sector; Paid Holiday
Schemes; Metal Industry

Aleksandra Kaydzhyska
Health Affairs Advisor
Aleksandra.Kaydzhyska@aeip.net

Working Areas
Relations with International and
European Institutions and Partner
Organizations; Healthcare funds;
Employment Policies; Social
Economy

Task Force(s)
Health and Care Sector; Health &
Safety at work; Employment

Cécile Henrotte
Office Manager
cecile.henrotte@aeip.net

Working Areas
Communications material;
Website / Intranet / Social
Networks coordination; Logistics
of Events / Conferences / Meetings
in Belgium; Accounting; Database
updates; Human Resources;
Administration and Office
Management

MISSION

Promotion of Paritarian Social Protection Schemes and defence of the shared interest of its members.

PHILOSOPHY

As a key player in the area of Social Protection at European level we promote responsible and efficient Paritarism across Europe and are recognized as an added-value for our members and partners.

WHO ARE WE?

AEIP is the leading non-profit association gathering institutions, organisations, companies and federations involved in the development and management of Paritarian Social Protection schemes in Europe.

WHAT DO WE WANT? (IDENTITY, DNA)

We have been entrusted by our members with the responsibility to protect and defend the Paritarian social protection schemes at the local and the European level.

Our ambition is to be the leader exercising influence to strengthen and ensure sustainability of Paritarian social protection schemes.

WHAT DO WE DO?

Through our presence, our proposals and our communication we defend, develop and promote a responsible and powerful Paritarism as a means for optimal and efficient social protection.

WHERE DO WE GO IN MEDIUM TERM?

Our intermediate goals are the following:

- Fully ensure advocacy of our Associations' members' interests
- Managing our growth to focus on the sustainability of the current situation

WHERE DO WE GO IN LONG TERM?

Our ultimate goal is to be recognized as a major European player and as an inexhaustible source for improving efficient Paritarian social protection schemes in Europe and support our member organisations in this respect.

Owing to the quality of its members and to the delegation of powers conferred to its Board, AEIP will become the leading body for the promotion of balanced paritarian social protection systems in Europe.

AEIP VISION

AEIP will promote and develop programs and orientations aiming at the sustainability of paritarian social protection systems at local level taking into account the national specificities aiming at ensuring social cohesion in Europe.

Based thereon, AEIP prepares recommendations, proposes local programs and influences European decisions to safeguard and promote the interests of its members. AEIP will think ahead and anticipate modern paritarian social protection systems that take into account changing economic and societal pattern. It will furthermore seek to find a new balance between and across generations.



HEADQUARTERS

Rue Montoyer 24 | B-1000 Bruxelles
T +32 2 233 54 20
info@aeip.net | www.aeip.net

FOLLOW US ON

