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Press Release: The European Association of Paritarian Institutions - AEIP publishes a research paper on the added-value of the paritarian model of social protection

On the occasion of the 25 years from the creation of AEIP and in the context of AEIP's participation to the 2021 European Retirement Week, we are delighted to publish our latest comprehensive research paper on the topic of "The added value of the paritarian model".

The current research brings together a conceptual analysis on the concept and main characteristics of paritarism as well as a detailed historical examination of the development and current functioning of paritarian institutions in a number of countries, including Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Germany and Italy. The paper also casts light in the relevance of social dialogue for collective social protection schemes and looks back at the development of the European social dialogue model.

With the current publication, AEIP would like to highlight the important role of paritarian institutions as well as to take stock of its activities at the EU level, spanning over the past two decades. As the necessity for the existence of paritarian institutions is even more relevant in the context of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, the report also brings forward several policy recommendations to support paritarian institutions of social protection.

The AEIP paper will be presented during the <u>event held on the 2nd of December</u>, as part of the <u>2021</u> <u>European Retirement Week</u>, with the aim to bring together experts, academics, policy makers, social partners and representatives of AEIP members to discuss the important role of the paritarian model and celebrate the 25th Anniversary of AEIP.

Commenting on the publication, Ms. Brigitte Pisa, President of AEIP, stated: "With the present report we aim to underline the importance of an inclusive, transparent, and solidarity-based social protection in Europe. We aspire that with our efforts towards highlighting the added value of the work of paritarian institutions, we will contribute to a better understanding of the complex environment in which they operate".

Focusing on current and future challenges, Ms. Katja Bjerstedt, Vice-President of AEIP, affirmed: "The current trends and challenges call for the reflection on what role paritarian institutions of social protection can play in the post-COVID-19 era. AEIP and its members will continue to adhere to their vision for a long-term oriented, sustainable, and adequate social protection and to promote complementary social institutions in an inclusive and transparent manner".

The full AEIP paper is available here.