

Update on EU policy developments

Transnational Families working group meeting 15th October 2024

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Updates in key areas concerning TNF

EU elections

New Commission

Post-EU elections – state of play

Migration – New Pact and implementation

Social rights: EU Work-life balance Directive – implementation



EU elections

- COFACE recommendations in Act Now leaflet sent to von der Leyen.
- New European Commission to be validated by European Parliament
- Commissioner portfolios description: housing and energy, social rights, crisis management. <u>See full article</u>.
- Hearings will be organised in November in front of different European Parliament committees before proceeding to vote.







Post - EU elections

- <u>Draghi report</u> (September 2024) on the "The Future of European competitiveness"
- European welfare state will be critical to provide strong public services, social protection, housing, transport and childcare during this transition.
- Europe will need a fundamentally new approach to skills
- "The EU must ensure that all workers have a right to education and retraining, allowing them to move into new roles as their companies adopt technology, or into good jobs in new sectors."
- European Pillar of Social Rights's role will remain crucial







New Commission

- **Mînzatu**. Executive Roxana Vice-People, Skills President for Preparedness - building of a Union of Equality, new action plan for the implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights, European Anti-Poverty Strategy
- Hadja **Lahbib**. Commissioner for **Preparedness and Crisis Management; Equality** - Roadmap for Women's Rights and a new Gender Equality Strategy, new Anti-Racism Strategy
- Magnus Brunner. Commissioner for Internal Affairs and Migration - oversee the implementation of the Pact





New Migration Pact

The New Pact on Migration and Asylum was adopted in May 2024 aims to significantly change the management of migration and establishing a unified asylum system across the EU.

Debated due to several issues:

- no general exemption on the detention of children
- security and defence approach
- restrictive definition of family
- vulnerable groups and mental health

A common EU system to manage migration



Secure external borders

Robust screening

Eurodac asylum and migration database

Border procedure and returns

Crisis protocols and action against instrumentalisation



Fast and efficient procedures

Clear asylum rules

Guaranteeing people's rights

EU standards for refugee status qualification

Preventing abuses



Effective system of solidarity and responsibility

> Permanent solidarity framework

Operational and financial support

Clearer rules on responsibility for asylum applications

Preventing secondary movements



Embedding migration in international partnerships Preventing irregular departures

> Cooperation on readmission

Fighting migrant smuggling

> Promoting legal pathways



Implementation

- 2-year transition period was set for Member States to prepare for its entry into application
- During this period, the European Commission will be coordinating a <u>common implementation plan</u> for the EU, assessing possible gaps and necessary operational steps
- Based on this plan, MS are required to prepare their National Implementation Plans until December 2024 the
 first drafts should be ready by October
- EU's <u>Technical Support Instrument (TSI)</u> to assist MS to prepare their plans
- Nine countries will receive technical support (Belgium, Czechia, Germany, Estonia, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Portugal and Romania)
- Ireland's official opt-in to the Pact
- New Commissioner: Magnus Brunner. Commissioner for Internal Affairs and Migration



Work-life Balance Directive

- European network of legal experts in gender equality and non-discrimination: The transposition of the Work-Life Balance Directive in EU Member States (II): Considerable work still to be done
- Up to 30 June 2023 one country (NL) transposed the Directive in a more or less satisfactory way
- The other countries (26) have important gaps in one or several areas,
- The areas with the most gaps are parental leave and/or compensation (present in 17 countries), FWAs (15 countries) and legal protection (14 countries)
- There are also some positive developments, for instance in terms of the transposition of parental leave
- As per the ongoing infringement procedures, the report states that in November 2023 the Commission decided to refer to the EU Court of Justice the procedures regarding BE, ES and IE on the matter that they failed to address the issues of non-transposition.



Thank you! Any questions?

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