



European Foundation  
for the Improvement of  
of Living and Working Conditions

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT



## Conference

### “The impact of globalisation on structural change and employment”

European Parliament, PHS 1A002, Brussels,  
Tuesday, 4 March 2008, 9:00 – 18:00

## Programme

---

**8:30**            **Registration**

**9:00**            **Opening & Welcome**

*Romana Tomc*, Secretary of State, Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs,  
Slovenia

*Alejandro Cercas*, Member of the European Parliament

*Jorma Karppinen*, Director, European Foundation for the Improvement of Living  
and Working Conditions

**9:20 – 12:30**    **Morning session:**  
**Globalisation and the new international division of labour**

9:20            **Round table I:**  
**WHAT'S SO NEW ABOUT GLOBALISATION – NEW WINNERS AND  
NEW LOSERS? Overview of the phenomenon**

The aim of the first Round Table is to take stock of current developments of the linkage between new forms of globalization and the new international division of labour and to debate on the distributive impact of globalisation. Experts will also look at the time dimension of the costs of globalisation (gains and losses in short and/or long term run), at increasing income inequalities and at the skills dimension of globalization.

Moderation: *Alejandro Cercas*, MEP (PSE, ES)

- *Donald Storrie*, Research manager, European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions

- *Rolph Van der Hoeven*, Director, International Policy Group, International Labour Organisation (ILO) (*confirmed*)
- *Paul Swaim*, Senior Economist, OECD (*confirmed*)
- *Jose Albino Silva Peneda*, MEP (EPP-DE, PT) (*confirmed*)

Debate with Members, speakers, Foundation's expert and participants

10:45

**Round table II:**

**STATE OF PLAY OF MANAGING CHANGE AND FACING GLOBALISATION. Location decision of firms and new international division of labour**

During the second Round Table, the debate will focus on strategies of companies to face globalization and managing change. Which are the factors driving business relocation decisions? How important is the emerging phenomena of "Backsourcing"? Do management corporate cultures affect company decisions? What role social partners can concretely play at company level and how worker participation at board level can make a difference?

Moderation: *Christian Welz*, European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions

- *Jean Lambert*, MEP (Greens, UK) (*confirmed*)
- *Jørgen Rønne*, Confederation of Danish Employers (DK) (*confirmed*)
- *Gösta Karlsson*, Senior Economist, Unionen, Sweden (*confirmed*)
- *Jean-Jacques Paris*, Project Agire, France (*confirmed*)

Debate with Members, speakers, Foundation's expert and participants

12:15

**Closing of the morning session**

*Harlem Désir*, Vice-President of the Socialist Group, MEP (PSE, FR)

12:30

End of the morning session

14:30 – 18:00 **Afternoon session:**

**Addressing globalisation: The institutional and public answers – New challenges**

14:30

**Round table III:**

**ROLE OF THE INSTITUTIONAL AND PUBLIC ACTORS: instruments, experiences at local/regional/national/EU levels**

During this Round Table, experts and policy makers will debate on European, national and regional responses to the challenges of globalisation. Which are the first lessons learnt from the European Globalisation Funds? How flexicurity and Active Labour Market Policies are concretely implemented in Member States? How territories challenge globalisation through economic diversification of rural policies and the development of cognitive maps of local actors? Are coherent industrial policies at EU and national levels too much expected?

Moderation: *Ole Christensen*, MEP (PSE, DK)

- *Jean-François Lebrun*, Directorate General Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities, European Commission (*confirmed*)
- *Laurent Cohen-Tanugi*, Président de la Mission française sur « l'Europe dans la mondialisation et la stratégie de Lisbonne », Minister for Economy, Finances and Employment, France (*confirmed*)
- *Serafino Negrelli*, Università Milano-Bicocca, Fondazione Regionale Pietro Seveso (*confirmed*)
- *Dr. Mihael Brejc*, MEP (EPP-DE, SI) (*confirmed*)

Debate with Members, speakers, Foundation's expert and participants

15:50

**Round table IV:**

**NEW TRENDS SCENARIOS FOR GLOBALISATION? Challenges ahead and long-term strategies**

The final Round Table aims at identifying the next challenges ahead and possible strategies to address these challenges. How far do we have to reshape social protection systems? Will flexicurity bring the appropriate answer to the need of increasing the labour market adaptability? Which forms of policy intervention can facilitate adjustment processes? Could qualitative change be generated by a "EU corporate governance"? Which strategies should be developed to address major changes on the international financial markets? Do we need a Global trade strategy?

Moderation: *Barbara Gerstenberger*, European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions

- *Xavier Prats Monné*, Director, Directorate General Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities, European Commission (*confirmed*)
- *Donald Storrie*, Research manager, European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions
- *Stephen Hughes*, MEP (PSE, UK)
- *José María Zufiaur*, Member of the European Economic and Social Committee (SP) (*confirmed*)

Debate with Members, speakers, Foundation's expert and participants

17:10

**Closing of the afternoon session**

*Stephen Hughes*, MEP (PSE, UK)

17:25

**Closing address**

*Vladimír Špidla*, Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities, European Commission

17:45

**Conclusions and closing the conference**

*Romana Tomc*, Secretary of State, Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs, Slovenia

*Jorma Karppinen*, Director, European Foundation

*Alejandro Cercas*, Member of the European Parliament

*Stephen Hughes*, Member of the European Parliament

18:00

**End of the conference**