

## **ETUC CALL FOR EXPERTS TO BE PART OF AN AD HOC GROUP ON RECOVERY&INVESTMENT**

On 27 of May the European Commission put forward its proposal for a major recovery plan that will counteract the adverse economic and social effects of the pandemic. It comes along with proposals for extending the EU budget close to 2% of the EU GNI, (€1,100 billion of MFF + €750 billion from issuing EU Debt). This adds to the €540 billion mobilised through the 3 emergency measures established as a response to the COVID-19 crisis and to the PEEP programme of the ECB (€750 + €500 billions).

While the Council is in the decision-making process, what is evident for the EU partners is the need to join forces and invest and that this investment has to be proportionate to the effects of the crisis caused by the pandemic. We can expect that recovery and investment will be at the core of the upcoming EU policies, deployed through enhanced cooperation (especially through the Semester) and supported by resources frontloaded in the EU budget and channelled through cohesion funds.

The Council's conclusions also provide direction so as to determine the scope of the recovery plan for the EU. Investment gaps and investment needs have to be identified in countries, regions and sectors and prioritised according to immediate needs and long-term strategies (such as the Green deal)

ETUC was already exploring investment needs and gaps in the framework of the European Semester.

### **1. SCOPE OF THE AD HOC GROUP**

This call for experts aims at setting up an Ad Hoc Group on Recovery and Investments, as part of the strategy designed in the ETUC Resolution on the EU Recovery Strategy After the COVID-19 Outbreak, adopted on 9 June 2020.

The experts will work under the coordination and supervision of the ETUC Confederal Secretary in charge of Economic Policy, EU Economic Governance and Semester and UN 2030 Agenda, and the Head of Institutional Policy of the ETUC.

### **2. EXPERTISE**

The ETUC is seeking trade union experts to assist in elaborating TU views on the implementation of the Recovery plan of the EU as stemming from the proposals made in the Communication Europe's moment: repair and prepare for the Next Generation.

Such experts should be able to support the ETUC secretariat in developing and promoting a trade union agenda for recovery and investments in the EU.

The Ad Hoc Group shall be a sub-group of the TUSLOs committee.

The Ad Hoc Group is open to members (national confederations and ETUFs) from Permanent committees:

- Economic Committee
- Sustainable Development, Energy and Climate Change Committee
- Economic and Social Cohesion and Regional Policies Committee

One representative from: Women's Committee, Youth Committee, IRTUCs Committee, Eurocadres, Ferpa.

The ETUC Secretariat will liaise with all relevant policy areas and permanent committees of the ETUC when and as necessary.

### **3. ACTIVITIES**

The Ad Hoc Expert Group on recovery and investment will support the ETUC in elaborating:

- An analysis of the proposals for recovery and investments coming from the EU, namely the above-mentioned Communication and the package providing its implementing instruments (mechanisms, facilities and funds).
- Identifying investment gaps and needs at both national and sector level, focusing on those that better create synergies between “social”, “green” and “digital” objectives.
- Build a trade union agenda for recovery and investments, in a way that the EPSR and the SDGs will remain mainstreaming at EU and national level.

#### 4. DELIVERABLES

- Analysis of the EU recovery plan, including the new MFF, the NextGenerationEU Programme and its implementing instruments (mechanisms, facilities and funds).
- A Report on investments needs and gaps at national, sectoral and European level
- Updates (twice per year) of the Report on investments needs and gaps at national, sectoral and European level (following the cycle of the European Semester).
- One position paper on social and sustainability aspects of the recovery and investment strategy of the EU.
- 3 meetings in 2020, 2 meetings in 2021 and 2 meetings in 2022 (after having checked with Alex availability of resources)

#### 5. RESOURCES

The ETUC will take charge of costs of meetings, including travelling and accommodation of participants, within the limits of budget allocations and according to EU rules for project activities, when applicable.

In 2020, the Ad Hoc Group will take benefit from online meetings until restrictions to travel will remain in place. Interpretation will be available in English, French, German. Other languages may be added according to actual needs of participants. When and if possible, meetings may be organised in Brussels.

#### 6. TIME FRAME

Meetings:

- 2020, 30th of July
- 2020, 10th of September
- 2020, End November
- 2021, End March
- 2021, Early September
- 2022, End March
- 2022, Early September

Deliverables:

- September 2020: First Analysis Recovery and Investment Plan of the EU
- September 2020: update of the Report on investment gaps and needs of the ETUC
- November 2020: position paper on social and sustainability aspects of the recovery and investment strategy of the EU
- March 2021: update of the Report on investment gaps and needs of the ETUC
- September 2021: update of the Report on investment gaps and needs of the ETUC
- November 2021: Assessment of the Position paper on social and sustainability aspects of the recovery and investment strategy of the EU
- March 2022: update of the Report on investment gaps and needs the ETUC
- September 2022: update of the Report on investment gaps and needs of the ETUC
- November 2022: Global Assessment Report