

# Social Employers Initiatives on Covid-19

➤ **Date:** 09/06/2020

## 1. Compilation of Responses and measures taken by Social Employers members on COVID-19

17<sup>th</sup> March 2020 - **Collection of actions and recommendations** from the Social Employers members, to share with others who are facing or may face similar challenges related to Covid-19. It contains measures responding to the situation as it is presented today and acknowledges that it is evolving on a daily basis.

## 2. Joint statements

- 25<sup>th</sup> March 2020 - [Joint Social Employers/EPSU statement](#) on COVID-19 outbreak: the impact on social services and needed support measures.
- 17<sup>th</sup> April 2020 - [Joint Social Employers/EPSU Letter](#) to call to action to tackle the lack of protective equipment for some of the social services workers all across Europe.
- 14<sup>th</sup> May 2020 - Open letter with other European representatives of social services organisations and social partner organisations in social services.



## 3. Survey to Social Employers partners

Members and partners provided an overview through a survey, of their **responses to the crisis at national level**. The overview of the survey was presented during a webinar hosted by the Social Employers.

## 4. Webinars

- 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020 - [webinar](#) to discuss about the initiatives developed by social services employers to respond to the Covid-19 outbreak in the sector. It also served to provide an overview of the survey made to members and partners on their responses at national level.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2020 - **Commission Helpdesk** on Support to Social Services to Respond to Covid-19 Crisis. It provided advice to social services on how to access the EU's Coronavirus Response Investment Initiative (CRII and CRII Plus). Our member from Romania, Diana Chiriacescu ([FONSS](#)), took the floor on behalf of Social Employers to present the needs in Eastern Europe.

- 9<sup>th</sup> June 2020 - [Joint EPSU/Social Employers Webinar](#): Safe and healthy workplaces in Social Services during and after the COVID-19 pandemic and the role of Social Partners.
- 25<sup>th</sup> June 10h00-12h00 CEST. - **online summit, ‘Social Services & COVID-19: what role for EU?’**  
The event will bring together grassroots workers engaged on the front line facing Covid-19, as well as European Union spokespersons, to together discuss the role of the European Union in supporting social services during these difficult times, ending with a joint statement. The Social Employers President Gregor Tomschizek and the General Secretary of EPSU, Jan Willem will speak together during the webinar.



## 5. Communication

- Two **Newsletters** to provide:
  - Information about the Social Employers actions on the COVID-19 outbreak.
  - Updates on the EU initiatives and measures to tackle the crisis.
  - Updates on the Social Employers members responses.
- **Social media campaign - #SocialServicesareEssentialServices campaign** together with the EU NGOs representing social services providers and EPSU.  
This campaign serves as a platform to showcase the essential work your service performs and your needs in responding to COVID-19, and to raise your voice to reach EU leaders.



## 6. Future Initiatives

- **New project proposal – FORSEE**  
The social Employers are developing a project proposal for next year, including a work package on **Social Services and Covid-19 - European Social Partner Cooperation**.
  - A report to explore the significant contribution of social services during the crisis.
  - show examples of social dialogue & collective agreements and how they contributed to managing the crisis.
  - highlight social dialogue as a key instrument to tackle the economic and social consequences of Covid-19.