

# 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.
- 19<sup>th</sup> October 2020 - [Joint Social Employers/EPSU Position Paper](#) on Preparing the social services sector for the COVID-19 resurgence and increasing its resilience



## 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.



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- highlight social dialogue as a key instrument to tackle the economic and social consequences of Covid-19.

