



European Economic and Social Committee

# Meet the Employers' Group





## What is the EESC?

- It is a **consultative body** comprising **350 members** from the **28 EU Member States**, representing **civil society organisations** .
- Members are appointed for **a renewable five-year term by the Council** on a proposal by Member States, but they work independently for the EESC in the interest of all EU citizens.

## What is the role of EESC?

It has three main tasks, which are to:

- ensure that **EU policies** reflect the true economic, social and civic picture,
- build a more **participatory EU**, closer to its citizens, and
- promote **EU values** and civil society organisations globally



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# An assembly consisting of three Groups

## Group I – Employers

- Representatives of business associations working in industry, commerce, services and agriculture in the 28 Member States of the European Union
- President: Jacek Krawczyk

## Group II – Workers

- Representatives of national trade unions, confederations and sectoral federations

## Group III – Various interests

- Other representatives of and stakeholders in civil society, particularly in the economic, civic, professional and cultural spheres



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# Mission

To promote **European integration** by supporting the **development** of our **businesses**, which play a key role in fostering the **prosperity** of our societies and in creating **jobs**, especially in an economically difficult climate.



We make the **voice of business** heard at European level



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## 6 Priorities of the Employers



**A stable macro-economic environment**



**A stronger culture of entrepreneurship**



**A more efficient, competitive, fully  
integrated and forward-looking  
industrial policy**



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## 6 Priorities of the Employers (2)



Full completion of  
the EU Internal Market



(Re)-Building the role  
of Europe in the world



Competitiveness for more employment,  
maintaining the EU social dimension



# Structure

- **President:** Jacek KRAWCZYK (PL)
- **10 Vice-Presidents** responsible for the Group's various fields of interest; they are also members of the Group's Bureau
- **Group's Bureau** – Group's President + Sections' Presidents belonging to Group I + 28 members representing all EU Members States
- **117 Members** in total





# Activities of the Employers' Group

## Opinions

Defend the interests of EU business in the **opinions** the EESC is working on

## Events

- Organisation of **conferences/thematic seminars/missions** in line with the Group's priorities and current EU developments

## Publications

- **Preparation of studies and position papers** in collaboration with prestigious think-tanks

## Cooperation

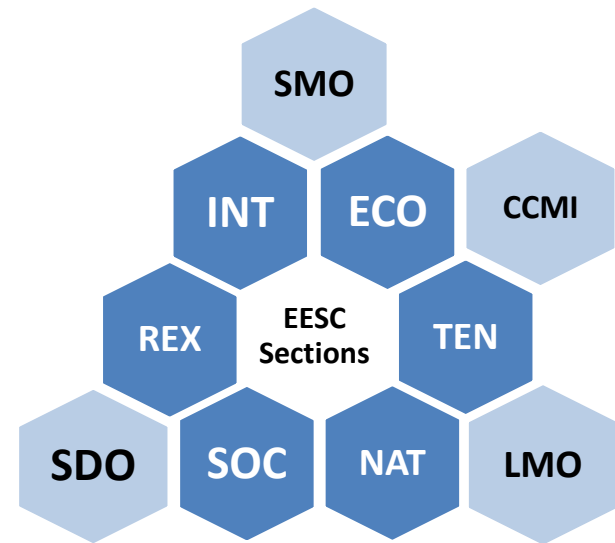
- Developing **strong synergies** with the EU Presidency, European business confederations and national employers' organisations





# Preparing Opinions

- Members identify both the strengths and weaknesses of **EU legislation** taking due account of the **needs and expectations of employers** from all Member States.
- According to their **area of expertise and interests**, members work within the **six sections** of the EESC, the **CCMI** (Consultative Commission on Industrial Change) and the **3 Observatories** (Single Market Observatory, Sustainable Development Observatory, Labour Market Observatory)





# Lifecycle of an opinion

**Request for  
an opinion**

**Rapporteur  
works on  
draft  
opinion with  
Study Group**

**Seeking  
consensus  
within the  
Section**

**Draft  
opinion  
voted at the  
Section level**

**Vote during  
the Plenary  
Session.  
Opinion  
published**

**Follow-up  
with  
stakeholders  
and decision  
makers**



# Opinions

- **Referrals:** major work of the EESC, drafted upon request of the European Commission/the EU Presidency based on ongoing legislative proposals;
- **Exploratory opinions:** requested by the EU institutions on topics that the EESC has particular expertise in;
- **Own-initiative opinions:** topics decided by the EESC Bureau based on Groups and Sections proposals.





# Events

- **Thematic conferences and seminars** related to Groups' priorities;
- **High-level speakers:** ministers, MEPs, EC representatives, academics, entrepreneurs with hands-on experience;
- Organised both in **Brussels** and in **EU Member States** (including countries of the EU Presidency).





# Publications

- **Issuing studies** in cooperation with prestigious think-tanks and EU affairs research centres. **Recent studies:**
  - ✓ *Implementation of better legislation - Effect of the Stoiber Report (EPC);*
  - ✓ *Factors for Growth (Lighthouse Europe);*
- **Position papers** prepared as a follow-up after the events;
- Monthly **newsletters**.





## Cooperation

- Strong partnerships with **Europe's major business organisations**, (i.e. BUSINESSEUROPE, CEEP, EUROCHAMBRES, EuroCommerce and UEAPME), and with **national employers organisations** across the 28 Member States;
- Cooperation with **employers' organisations in non-EU countries** (Eastern Partnership, Japan, US);



**How?** Organisation of **joint events**, **public hearings** and **seminars**, as well as on permanent **sharing of information** related to current activities.



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**Thank you for your attention!**

**Get to know us better!**



*[www.eesc.europa.eu/employers-group](http://www.eesc.europa.eu/employers-group)*



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