INVITATION
14/15 April 2016, Brussels

EUROPE CAN DO BETTER: GOOD JOBS, WORKER PARTICIPATION, INVESTMENT

European Dialogue 2016
Dear Sir or Madam,
Dear Colleagues,

Europe is lagging behind its potential. Austerity policies and deregulation have worsened the working and living conditions of employees in many countries. The EU Commission’s initiatives to “cut red tape” threaten to undermine rights to information and to a say at work. And public infrastructures is crumbling even in economically strong Germany.

Europe can do better! It has the potential to become the Continent of Good Work. With more investment, it can gain in productivity and prosperity for its citizens. Europe and its economy benefit when workers and their trade unions have a say in economic life. And Europe’s education systems must become fitter for purpose and fairer in order to secure our future. We aim how to discuss how all this can be brought about in the European Dialogue 2016.

We are delighted that Joseph E. Stiglitz, Columbia University New York City and winner of the Nobel Prize for Economics in 2001, will be making the keynote speech. The topics of Investments, Quality of Work, Worker Participation and Education will be analysed and discussed from different perspective in four workshops.

The Closing Panel of Reiner Hoffmann, Chairman of the German Trade Union Confederation, and the EU-Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs, Skills and Labour Mobility Marianne Thyssen (invited) will debate what courses now need to be set in Europe.

We are organising the European Dialogue together with the European Trade Union Institute.

We look forward to seeing you!
12:00 Welcome snack

12:30 Opening and Welcome
   Michael Guggemos
   Spokesman for the Management Board of the Hans Böckler Foundation
   Gustav Horn
   The Macroeconomic Policy Institute of the Hans Böckler Foundation

12:45 Keynote speech
   Joseph E. Stiglitz
   Columbia University and Nobel Prize Winner 2001
   Chair:
   Melinda Crane
   Deutsche Welle TV

14:30 Coffee break

15:00 Parallel Workshops

   The Europe of Investment
   Chair:
   Melinda Crane
   Deutsche Welle TV

   Stocktake: the weakness of public and private investments in Europe
   Andrew Watt
   The Macroeconomic Policy Institute of the Hans Böckler Foundation
Part A: The Juncker Plan: will it bring the desired turnaround?

Input:
Miguel Gil-Tertre
European Commission, Vice-President Katainen’s cabinet

Comments and discussion with:
Michal Polak
Ministry of Finance of Slovakia
Maria João Rodrigues
Vice-President, the Socialists and Democrats Group, European Parliament
Xavier Timbeau
Observatoire français des conjonctures économiques

Part B: Does Europe need new fiscal rules to enable investment?

Input:
Achim Truger
Berlin School of Economics and Law

Comments and discussion with:
Joseph E. Stiglitz
Columbia University and Nobel Prize Winner 2001
Nacho Álvarez
Autonomous University of Madrid and Chief Economist Podemos
Luca Visentini
General Secretary of the European Trade Union Confederation
The Europe of Workers’ Participation

Chair:
Michael Brocker
WDR moderator

Part A: Board-level employee representation – similarities and differences in EU member states

Working groups:
National systems of workers’ participation in Europe

Keynote:
A European perspective on workers’ voice in corporate governance

Aline Conchon
IndustriAll European Trade Union, Brussels

Experts
Valentina Franca
University of Primorska, Slovenia

Wolfgang Greif
GPA-djp Union of Private Sector Employees, Vienna

Romuald Jagodzinski
European Trade Union Institute (ETUI), Brussels

Caspar Rose
Copenhagen Business School, Denmark
Part B: The European dimension of workers’ participation

Round Table:
Workers’ participation in the European Company (SE)

Sophie Rosenbohm
Institute for Work and Qualification (IAQ), Duisburg (chair)

Aline Hoffmann
European Trade Union Institute (ETUI), Brussels

Severine Picard
European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC), Brussels

Round Table:
Transnational board-level employee representation under national regulation

Jan Cremers
University of Amsterdam (chair)

Rainald Thannisch
German Trade Union Confederation (DGB), Berlin

Inger Marie Hagen
Fako Institute for Labour and Social Research, Oslo

Conclusion:
Perspectives for more workers’ participation in Europe

18:30 End of the Workshops

19:30 Dinner
09:00  Parallel Workshops

The Europe of Good Work

Chair:
Michael Brocker
WDR moderator

“Good work in Europe: Findings from the European Working Conditions Survey”
Erika Mezger
Deputy Director Eurofound

“The EU Commission’s current policy and Good Work”
Wiebke Warneck
Legal Advisor ETUC

“Models of and approaches to Good Work in Europe”
Julia Borggräfe
Head of HR & Corporate Governance Messe Berlin
Member of the Hans Böckler Foundation’s Work of the Future Commission

Podium discussion
“Challenges and prospects of Good Work in Europe”

Esther Lynch
Confederal Secretary ETUC

Frank Hoffer
Senior Research Officer, ILO

Jörg Spies
General Works Council Daimler
The Europe of Education

Chair:
Katharina Blaß
Journalist

Input
Youri Devuyst
Education and Culture Directorate General, “Europe 2020, Investment Plan, Education and Training 2020” Unit

Comments
Margret Bülow-Schramm
Center for higher education and training

Tom Vrijs
Youth Committee of the European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC)

12:30 End of the Workshops and Lunch

13:30 Closing Panel
What kind of Europe do we want?
Reiner Hoffmann
Chairman of the German Trade Union Confederation and Chairman of the Board of the Hans Böckler Foundation

Reiner Hoffmann in dialogue with students
(Hans Böckler Foundation/Friedrich Ebert Foundation/Network Pluralist Economics)

Chair:
Melinda Crane
Deutsche Welle TV
## INFORMATION

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<th><strong>Organiser</strong></th>
<th>Hans Böckler Foundation in conjunction with the European Trade Union Institute</th>
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<td><strong>Venue</strong></td>
<td>Albert Hall</td>
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<td>Chaussee de Wavre, 649-651</td>
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<td><strong>Registration/ deadline</strong></td>
<td>25 March 2016</td>
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<td>Registration is binding and will be confirmed with arrival information after the deadline.</td>
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<td><strong>Organisation/ Registration</strong></td>
<td>Hans-Böckler-Stiftung</td>
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<td><strong>Note</strong></td>
<td>No conference fees are charged. The costs of board and lodging during the conference are borne by the organisers; travel expenses are not.</td>
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<td><strong>Languages</strong></td>
<td>The conference languages are German, English and French.</td>
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