How to build the ‘European pillar of social rights’?

In March 2016 the European Commission launched a public consultation on the establishment of a “European pillar of social rights”. Austrian and German trade unions, social service providers and a range of other social policy actors have already submitted their contributions. The European Commission’s Preliminary Outline of the proposed pillar has been discussed on many occasions, at the EU level and in many Member States.

While the consultation is still ongoing, the German Trade Union Federation (DGB), the Austrian Trade Union Federation (ÖGB), the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES), the Austrian Federal Chamber of Labour (AK Europa), Diakonie Deutschland, SOLIDAR, the European Social Observatory (OSE) and the Representation of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia would like to make a first assessment of the process and its possible outcomes. Therefore, we cordially invite you to our joint event:

**6 December 2016—18.00**

**Representation of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia to the EU**

Rue Montoyer 47, 1000 Brussels

We would like to focus on the subjects of minimum wage and quality of work, minimum income and access to social services. The following topics will be debated: *What are the proposals and demands of unions and social service providers? How could they be transposed into concrete actions at the EU level? And how to convince the Member States to accept more guidance on achieving convergence towards higher social standards in the EU?*

Confirmed speakers: **Allan Larsson**, Special Advisor to Commission President Juncker on the European Pillar of Social Rights; **Maria João Rodrigues**, European Parliament Rapporteur to the Employment and Social Affairs Committee on the Pillar; **Esther Lynch**, Confederal Secretary, European Trade Union Confederation; **Josef Wöss**, Director of the Social Policy Division, Austrian Chamber of Labour; and **Ruth Paserman**, Deputy Head of Cabinet of the Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs, Skills and Labour Mobility, Marianne Thyssen. The discussion will be moderated by **Bart Vanhercke**, Director at the European Social Observatory. The event will be followed by a drinks reception.

Please confirm your participation before 30th November 2016: event.nrw@lv-eu.nrw.de

We look forward to meeting you again on 6 December!