

## Programme

# Economic and social convergence in the EU – Making it happen!

Joint seminar organised by Eurofound in cooperation with the European Commission's Directorate-General for Economic and Financial Affairs

- 
- Date:** Thursday 26 September 2019
- Time:** 08.30–13.00
- Venue:** Residence Palace, Rue de la Loi 155, 1040 Brussels (Maelbeek room)
- Languages:** EN
- LIVE webcast will be available at [www.eurofound.europa.eu](http://www.eurofound.europa.eu)

## Programme – 26 September 2019

08.30	<b>Registration and coffee</b>
09.00	<p><b>Welcome and introductory remarks</b> Chair: Donald Storrie, Chief Researcher, Eurofound</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mary Veronica Tovsak Pleterski</b>, Director, DG Economic and Financial Affairs, European Commission</li> </ul>
09.15	<p><b>Economic convergence in the EU</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation by <b>Plamen Nikolov</b>, Economic analyst, DG Economic and Financial Affairs, European Commission</li> </ul> <p>Discussion with <b>Cinzia Alcidi</b>, Head, Economic Policy Unit, Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS)</p> <p>Comments from the floor</p>
10.15	<p><b>Upward social convergence in the EU</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation by <b>Massimiliano Mascherini</b>, Senior Research Manager, Eurofound</li> </ul> <p>Discussion with <b>Frank Vandenbroucke</b>, University of Amsterdam</p> <p>Comments from the floor</p>
11.15	<p><b>Perspectives from the European Parliament</b></p> <p>Comments by <b>Dragoş Pislaru</b>, MEP, Renew Europe (RO)</p>
11.30	<b>Coffee break</b>
11.45	<p><b>Convergence - Making it Happen!</b> Chair: Donald Storrie, Chief Researcher, Eurofound</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Fabiana Pierini</b>, Team Leader, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, European Commission</li> <li>• <b>Eric von Breska</b>, Director, DG Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission</li> <li>• <b>James Watson</b>, Director of Economics, BusinessEurope</li> <li>• <b>Matthieu Méaulle</b>, Advisor, European Confederation of Trade Unions (ETUC)</li> </ul> <p>Comments from the floor</p>
12.45	<p><b>Closing remarks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Juan Menéndez-Valdés</b>, Executive Director, Eurofound</li> </ul>
13.00	<b>Networking lunch</b>
14.00	<b>End of seminar</b>