



**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**

Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities DG

Employment strategy and European Social Fund policy development and coordination  
**Employment services**

Brussels, 23 January 2006

**" Workers' Mobility : a right, an option, an opportunity ? "**

**International conference  
on the occasion of the launch of the**

**European Year of Workers' Mobility**

**Brussels, Charlemagne Building, 20-21 February 2006**

**Draft programme**

Monday 20 February

13.15 Registration  
Welcome coffee & Snacks

14.30 **"Mobility, a tool for more and better jobs"**

The inaugural session will be attended by H.R.H. Prince Philip of Belgium

Addresses by :

- \* José Manuel Barroso, President of the European Commission
- \* Martin Bartenstein, Austrian Minister for Economy and Employment
- \* Jan Andersson, Chairman of the Employment and Social Affairs Committee, European Parliament
- \* Jeremy Rifkin, President of the Foundation for Economic Trends
- \* Vladimir Spidla, European Commissioner for Employment and Social Affairs

15.45 **Official opening proclamation of the 2006 European Year of Workers' Mobility**, by Commissioner Vladimir Spidla

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- 15.50        **Official launch of the new EURES platform for EU job vacancies**, by President José Manuel Barroso and Commissioner Vladimir Spidla
- 16.00        Coffee break  
Opening of the exhibition  
Press conference
- 16.30        **"Free movement and the functioning of transitional measures"**, roundtable, chaired by Commissioner Vladimir Spidla, with the participation of :
- \*        Philippe de Buck, Secretary General of UNICE
  - \*        Jan Kulakowski, Member of the European Parliament
  - \*        Jean Lambert (Mrs), Vice-Chair of the Group of the Greens/European Free Alliance, European Parliament
  - \*        John Monks, Secretary General of ETUC
  - \*        Tony Venables, Director, ECAS
- Rapporteur : Anna Hudzieczek, Department for Works and Pensions, UK Ministry for Labour and Social Affairs
- Discussion
- 18.00        End
- 20.00        **Official Dinner**  
Albert Hall, Brussels  
The dinner will be followed by a concert by Ms Axelle Red, Ambassador for UNICEF

## **Tuesday 21 February**

- 9.30-12.30    **"The mobility challenge in practice"**  
Parallel workshops
1.        **Instilling a mobility culture for workers: the social partner's perspective :**
    - \*        Jorma Karppinen, Director, European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions, Dublin (chair)
    - \*        Harrie Bijen, General Secretary EFBWW (European Federation of Building and Woodworkers)
    - \*        Austin Birks, Senior Manager, Recruitment Strategy, FirstGroup, Aberdeen
    - \*        Liina Carr, International Secretary, Confederation of Estonian Trade Unions, Tallinn
    - \*        Soeren Henriksen, Managing Director, Dansk Handel & Services, Copenhagen
    - \*        Carlo Parietti, President of Eurocadres

- \* Frédéric Tiberghien, Honorary Chairman of ORSE (Observatoire sur la responsabilité sociale des entreprises), and Member of the Conseil d'Etat, Paris (rapporteur)

## 2. **Geographical mobility, a tool for competitiveness and job creation**

- \* Thomas Straubhaar, President, Hamburg Institute of International Economics (chair)
- \* Monique Chalude, Director, MC2–Chalude & Associates, Brussels (rapporteur)
- \* Laurent Eliazewicz, Equipe Placement International, ANPE, Paris
- \* Katerina Kolyva, Managing Director, European Cultural Interactions, Athens
- \* Genevieve Macklin, Housing Director, Association of London Government
- \* Margarita Perez-Garcia, Researcher in Education Sciences, SCIENTER, Bologna
- \* Philippe Perfetti, Assemblée permanente des Chambres de métiers, Paris
- \* Robbie Wigley-Jones, Partner, Human Resource Services, PricewaterhouseCoopers, London

## 3. **The case for occupational mobility : the lifelong learning model and the transparency of qualifications**

- \* Paolo Federighi, Professor, University of Florence (chair)
- \* Peter Auer, Economist, International Labour Organisation, Geneva
- \* Jens Bjornavold, CEDEFOP, Brussels
- \* Soeren Kristensen, Chairman, Techne, Broenshoej (rapporteur)
- \* Jean-André Lasserre, Research Manager, AFT-IFTIM Group, Paris
- \* Sue Meyer, Director for Programmes and Policy, National Institute of Adult Continuing Education, London
- \* Jo Ritzen, President of the University of Maastricht

12.30 Lunch

14.30 Reports from the panel sessions

15.15 **"Building on experience : towards a mobility culture for workers in Europe"**

Panel discussion, with the participation of :

Jan Figel, European Commissioner for Education and Culture

Mario Monti, University of Bocconi, Chairman of ECAS

Janez Potocnik, European Commissioner for Science and Research

Moderator : Nikolaus van der Pas, Director General for Employment,  
Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities, European Commission

16.45

**Conference Conclusions**

Nikolaus van der Pas, Director General for Employment, Social Affairs  
and Equal Opportunities, European Commission

17.00

End