

# The Committee of Regions discusses European pillar of social rights

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Maria João Rodrigues, as the European Parliament's rapporteur for the European pillar of social rights, participated in the discussion on the opinion of the Committee of the Regions.

MJR argued that "facing the present challenges, either by the effects of globalization, of the digital revolution or the energy transition, it is necessary to ensure that workers have their fundamental social rights guaranteed".

The MEP warned of the real danger of reduction of labour and social rights, also due to the deficit way the euro zone continues to function. Maria João Rodrigues emphasized the need to implement a "credible strategy for growth, for job creation and for the promotion of convergence between Member States, which currently compete with each other through the degradation of their social standards."

The European pillar of social rights will define a number of key principles, with the objective to support the proper and fair functioning of labor markets and social protection systems in the euro area. The experience of the last decade has shown that persistent imbalances between Member States may jeopardize the stability of the entire euro area.

As recommended by the "report of five presidents" on "complete the economic and monetary union", more emphasis is needed on employment and social performance as part of a wider process of convergence. The MEP made an appeal to the regions and local authorities to be actively involved in this discussion so that the implementation of the future pillar of social rights has a positive and real impact on the lives of European citizens.