

CONFERENCE OF INGOs OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

CONFERENCE DES OING DU CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Declaration CONF/PLE(2017)DEC2 adopted by the Conference of INGOs on 27 January 2017

The European Social Charter is central to the dialogue between the Council of Europe and the European Union (Turin Process)

The Conference of INGOs of the Council of Europe,

Having taken note of the <u>Opinion of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe on the</u> European Union initiative to establish a European Pillar of Social Rights;

**Recalling** the mission of organised civil society for the promotion of social justice and the protection of social rights;

**Supports** the proposals of the Secretary General highlighting the essential role of social rights in the European construction and in particular, the recognition of the European Social Charter as the "Social Constitution of Europe";

**Underlines** the dialogue on social rights between the Council of Europe and the European Union on the basis of the Turin Process, launched by the Secretary General in October 2014;

**Recalls** its commitment in the Turin Process and in particular the launch in January 2016 of *The Action of INGOs in the Turin Process for the European Social Charter*,

**Supports** the INGOs and their national members in their initiatives and actions for the promotion of the European Social Charter and its Collective Complaints mechanism as fundamental instrument for the effective safeguarding of all social rights in Europe.