



Annual Convention for Inclusive Growth 2019¹

20 May 2019

Venue: Crowne Plaza, rue Gineste 3, Brussels

Side event

Independent national defenders for a stronger social Europe post 2020: using the synergies between the European Pillar of Social Rights and the European Social Charter to advance the sustainable development goals in the social area

organised by the [European Network of Human Rights Institutions](#), the [European Network of Equality Bodies](#) and the [Council of Europe, European Social Charter Department](#)

Time schedule: 20 May, 14.00-15.30

14:00-14:15 Opening

Anne Gaspard, Executive Director of Equinet

- *Introduction to the event and presentation of the CoE-FRA-ENNHRI-Equinet Collaborative Platform on social and economic rights*

Humbert de Biolley, Deputy Head of Office, Council of Europe Office in Brussels

- *Relevance of the European Social Charter in protecting social rights in Europe*

14.10-15.15 Role of National Human Rights Institutions and National Equality Bodies in supporting synergies between the European Pillar of Social Rights and the European Social Charter to advance the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Europe

Moderator: Debbie Kohner, Secretary General of European Network of National Human Rights Institutions (ENNHRI)

- *Introduction of the topic and the speakers*

Keynote Speaker: Olivier De Schutter, Institute for Interdisciplinary Research in Legal Sciences, University of Louvain, Belgium

¹ The Annual Convention for Inclusive Growth is an action-oriented platform bringing together civil society organisations and policymakers to discuss how to achieve inclusive growth. Its fourth edition will take place in Brussels on 20 May 2019.

Web page: <https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=88&eventId=1394&furtherEvents=yes>

- How can the EU frameworks including the European Social Pillar be strengthened when referring to the ESC: [Study](#) on the European Pillar of Social Rights and the role of the European Social Charter in the EU legal order
- What role for NHRIs and NEBs

Anete Ilves, Latvian Ombudsman, Chair of the ENNHRI Economic, Social and Cultural Rights Working Group

- ENNHRI work on poverty, employment, social security and its relevance to the EU
- National example: constitutional court cases on poverty
- ENNHRI study on aligning SDGs with human rights-based approach to poverty

Milla Vidina, Equinet Secretariat and Veerle Stroobants, Belgian “Combat Poverty, Insecurity and Social Exclusion” Service

- Equinet’s work on the links between poverty and discrimination: equality bodies contributing to the protection, respect and fulfillment of economic and social rights
- The national context: the work of the Belgian “Combat Poverty, Insecurity and Social Exclusion” Service and their collaboration with UNIA

Questions and answers

15.15

Wrap up and concrete steps

Debbie Kohner & Anne Gaspard