



How can National Human Rights Institutions and Equality Bodies engage with the European Committee of Social Rights under the monitoring procedures of the European Social Charter

6 February 2024 (10.00-12.00 CET, via ZOOM)

CONCEPT NOTE

The event is part of the annual training sessions organised by the Department of Social Rights for National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) and National Equality Bodies (NEBs) in order to strengthen their engagement with the European Committee of Social Rights in the framework of the monitoring procedures of the European Social Charter.

More specifically, the **objectives** of the event are:

- to present the new monitoring system of the European Social Charter, introduced by the adoption of the reform package by the Committee of Ministers on 27 September 2022,
- to present the questionnaire submitted to States Parties to the Charter for the ad hoc report on the cost-of-living crisis and examine the opportunities for NHRIs and NEBs to submit additional information to the ECSR on the relevant articles;
- to exchange on the two projects implemented in 2023 under the call for proposals in the field of social and economic rights as guaranteed by the European Social Charter.

The event will provide an opportunity to exchange on the new monitoring procedures of the Charter and provide guidance to NHRIs and NEBs to contribute meaningfully to the process.

Reporting cycle 2024

In accordance with the [decision of the Ministers' Deputies](#) adopted on 27 September 2022, concerning the [new system](#) for the presentation of reports under the European Social Charter, the European Committee of Social Rights and the Governmental Committee of the European Social Charter and the European Code of Social Security have decided to request an *ad hoc* report on the cost-of-living crisis to all State parties to the Charter. In this respect, the European Committee of Social Rights has submitted a set of [questions to States Parties of the Charter on the cost-of-living crisis](#).

National Human Rights Institutions and National Equality Bodies, along with NGOs, trade unions and employer's organisations are again invited to submit their key observations and comments on the national reports on the cost of living **by 30 June 2024**.

Speakers

Representatives of the European Committee of Social Rights, of the Secretariat of the Department of Social Rights and representatives of NHRIs/NEBs.

Agenda

Session I: Strengthening the Council of Europe legal framework for social rights protection

Moderator: Tanya Montanari, Coordinator of the COE-FRA-ENNHRI-EQUINET Platform on Social and Economic Rights, Department of Social Rights, Council of Europe

10:00 - 10:20

- **General overview of the monitoring procedures of the European Social Charter**
Tanya Montanari, Platform Coordinator, Department of Social Rights

10:20 - 10.40

- **Presentation of the questions for the ad hoc report on the cost-of-living crisis**
Aoife Nolan, President of the European Committee of Social Rights, Professor of International Human Rights Law, University of Nottingham, United Kingdom

10.40 – 11:00

- **Moderated session with questions and answers with the participation of Aoife Nolan, President of the European Committee of Social Rights and Niamh Casey, Head of Reporting Procedure Division, Council of Europe Department of Social Rights**

Session II: Targeted support for NHRIs/NEBs: challenges and lessons learned

Moderator: Tanya Montanari, Coordinator of the COE-FRA-ENNHRI-EQUINET Platform on Social and Economic Rights, Department of Social Rights, Council of Europe

11:00 – 11.40

- **Presentation of the project: Capacity Building for the staff of the National Commission for the Promotion of Equality of Malta**
Joana Micallef, NCPE Executive, National Commission for the Promotion of Equality of Malta
- **Presentation of the project: Collaboration in monitoring and advancing economic and social rights in Serbia**
Olja Jovičić, Senior Adviser, Protector of Citizens of Serbia

11.30-11.50

- **Moderated session with questions and answers**

11.50-12.00

- **Conclusions and next steps**
Tanya Montanari, Coordinator of the COE-FRA-ENNHRI-EQUINET Platform on Social and Economic Rights, Department of Social Rights, Council of Europe