



CONFERENCE OF INGOs
OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

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CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE



European
Social
Charter

Charte
sociale
européenne



**The Revised European Social Charter: what use for what impact?
"Advancing the implementation of socio-economic rights by making better use of the
monitoring procedures of the European Social Charter"**

2nd Webinar

organised by the Conference of INGOs' "Action for Social Rights" Committee, in partnership
with the Department of Social Rights of the Council of Europe

14 June 2022 (10.00-12.30 CET)

Hybrid via KUDO / Room 9, Palais de l'Europe

International and national civil society organisations and trade unions are stakeholders of the [European Social Charter](#) and the [Collective Complaints Protocol](#). They contribute to the implementation of the treaty by the States Parties. Monitoring is carried out through two procedures to which non-governmental organisations (NGOs) can contribute: the collective complaints procedure and the [reporting system](#). They are complementary in that the conclusions based on the reports can be used as a springboard for a strong collective complaint. Both procedures are under the supervision of the [European Committee of Social Rights](#) (ECSR), which is made up of 15 independent experts elected by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe.

The participatory status allows international non-governmental organisations (INGOs) to be accredited by the [Governmental Committee of the European Social Charter and the European Code of Social Security](#) to lodge collective complaints. This is why the organs of the [Conference of INGOs](#) in charge of the promotion of economic and social rights, alongside the Charter's Secretariat, ensure the dynamics of co-operation between the INGOs with participatory status and the Council of Europe organs responsible for monitoring the implementation of the Charter.

In this perspective and in continuity with the training sessions previously organised by the Conference of INGOs, the Committee "Action for Social Rights" invites you to a webinar entitled "The revised European Social Charter: what use for what impact?" This is a new initiative that follows on from the training workshops held successively in Brussels and Strasbourg in recent years.

Objectives:

- To increase the knowledge of national and international non-governmental organisations of the monitoring procedures (reporting procedure and collective complaint procedure) of the European Social Charter in order to encourage them to take an active part.
- To highlight the key role that INGOs and NGOs play in the application of the monitoring procedures of the Charter to better protect social rights at the pan-European level.
- To provide INGOs and NGOs with "know how" about the collective complaints procedure of the European Social Charter.
- Raise awareness and support INGOs and NGOs on collective complaints, in order to increase the use of this instrument to guarantee social and economic rights, in particular of vulnerable groups in countries that have ratified the Protocol.
- Strengthen the capacity of INGOs to submit collective complaints under the European Social Charter.

The webinars are open to national and international NGOs, informal civil society groups, trade unions, independent national human rights institutions, academic experts.

Programme

09.20-09.50 Welcome coffee in front of Room 9

Moderator: Tanya MONTANARI, Department of Social Rights, Council of Europe

10.00-10.20 **Opening**

Karin LUKAS, President of the European Committee of Social Rights (online)

Gerhard ERMISCHER, President of the Council of Europe Conference of INGOs

10.20-10.30 **Pitfalls to avoid when drafting a collective complaint**

Laurent VIOTTI, Department of Social Rights, Council of Europe

10.30-11.30 **Workshops**

Moderator: Jean-Bernard MARIE, Committee "Action for Social Rights", Conference of INGOs

Collective Complaint [173/2018 International Commission of Jurists \(ICJ\) and European Council on Refugees and Exiles \(ECRE\) v. Greece](#)

Speakers:

Aoife NOLAN, Vice-President of the European Committee of Social Rights (online)

Stavros PAPAGEORGOPOULOS, Lawyer, European Council on Refugees and Exiles (ECRE) (online)

Henrik KRISTENSEN, Deputy Head, Department of Social Rights

Collective Complaint [86/2012 European Federation of National Organisations Working with the Homeless \(FEANTSA\) v. The Netherlands](#)

Speakers:

Joris SPRAKEL, Lawyer, FEANTSA

Pim FISCHER, Lawyer, FEANTSA

Henrik KRISTENSEN, Deputy Head, Department of Social Rights

Q&A session, moderated by Tanya MONTANARI and Jean-Bernard MARIE

Moderator: Tanya MONTANARI, Department of Social Rights, Council of Europe

11.45-12.00 **Potential support of the Academic Network on the European Social Charter and Social Rights (ANESC) in the context of collective complaints**

Sébastien VAN DROOGHENBROECK, Professor at University Saint-Louis Brussels ASBL, Coordinator of the Belgium section of the ANESC (online)

12.00-12.20 **Follow-up to decisions in the collective complaints – actions to take**

Henrik KRISTENSEN, Deputy Head, Department of Social Rights

Alexis DESWAEF, Lawyer and Vice-President of the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH) (online)

12.20-12.30 **Conclusions** by Mélanie SCHMITT, Professor of Social Law and Deputy Director of the UMR 7354 Law, Religion, Business and Society, University of Strasbourg