



Policy Round Table

The role of EU policy in shaping inclusive labour markets

10.00-12.30, 4th September 2025

European Economic and Social Committee

6th floor, Rue Belliard 99/101, in the Jacques Delors Building, ([room JDE63](#))
Brussels, Belgium



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PATHS2INCLUDE

Objectives of the round table

This will be a 2.5 hour policy round table in Brussels on 4th September 2025 co-hosted with the Civil Society Organisations' Group of the European Economic and Social Committee.

It will focus on the findings emerging from the [PATHS2INCLUDE](#) research, highlighting contextual factors determining labour market inclusion. It will also present findings on the intersections of health and age which create labour market vulnerabilities. Together with participants we will consider how these findings can feed into different EU policy initiatives. The aim will be to:

- Connect EU policy makers working on inclusive labour markets from different perspectives (inclusion, employment, discrimination, social dialogue, CSR) at EU level;
- Highlight some points of vulnerability emerging in the research, reflecting on how these depend on the interaction between individual characteristics and the structural features of the context in which people live.
- Explore different European labour market scenarios, including the potential impact of reducing the gender employment gap in terms of poverty reduction and increased fiscal space.
- Discuss how different EU policy and legal frameworks can provide potential solutions to these vulnerabilities and scenarios.

Agenda

Moderator: Elizabeth Gosme, Director, COFACE Families Europe

9.30-10.00 **Registrations and coffee**

10.00-10.15 **Welcome by the President of the EESC Civil Society Organisations' Group**
Séamus Boland (tbc)

10.15-11.15 **Emerging findings on inclusive labour markets from PATHS2INCLUDE**

Speakers: Dr Elisabeth Ugreninov and Dr Justyna Katarzyna Bell (Oslo, Norway), Dr Federico Ciani and Dr Arianna Vivoli (ARCO, Italy)

11.15-12.15 **Discussion: How can EU policies respond to the identified challenges?**

Key questions for discussion:

- Which EU policies can help shape inclusive labour markets?
- What good practices already exist?
- Do you have any specific recommendations moving forward?

12.15-12.30 **Conclusions and next steps**



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