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NOTE

From:	Presidency
To:	Delegations
Subject:	Presidency events - <i>Information from the Presidency</i>

Delegations will find attached information on the events organised by the Presidency, with a view to the EPSCO Council on 9 October 2023 (Any Other Business item).

Information on the events organised by the Spanish Presidency of the Council of the European Union

Informal ministerial meetings

Informal meeting of Ministers of Employment and Social Policy, 13-14 July 2023, Madrid

On 13-14 July 2023, the Ministers of Employment and Social Policy of the European Union met informally in Madrid. The theme of the meeting was “Social dialogue and social shield for people-centred policies: social dialogue as a tool of democratic legitimacy for a social, green and feminist Europe”, and discussions centred around three main topics: social dialogue, care policies and social protection. The first discussion, on national and European experiences in social dialogue, was led by the Second Vice-President and Minister of Labour and Social Economy of Spain, Yolanda Díaz. The second debate, led by the Minister of Social Rights and 2030 Agenda of Spain, Ione Belarra, focused on national experiences and advances in EU care policies, social dialogue and civil society. A last session was led by the Minister of Inclusion, Social Security and Migration, José Luis Escrivá, and addressed the challenges of our social protection systems under the European Pillar of Social Rights.

Informal meeting of Equality Ministers on violence against women, 24 November 2023, Pamplona

The Spanish Presidency will organise an informal meeting of Ministers of Equality on 24 November 2023 in Pamplona, dedicated to the topic of misogynistic violence. The informal ministerial meeting will be preceded by a conference on sexual freedom, on 23 November 2023 in Pamplona. The main focus of both events is violence against women.

High-level conferences

Future of work and social dialogue, 21-22 September 2023, Santiago de Compostela

The high-level meeting was dedicated to working towards a new European labour agenda based on social dialogue, in the context of the impact of the green and digital transitions on employment and labour relations. Participants exchanged ideas on advancing democracy at work and introducing green collective bargaining and a regulatory framework for artificial intelligence and algorithms in the workplace. The event was attended by EU Ministers, the Commissioner for Jobs and Social Rights Nicolas Schmit, European social partners and members of international organisations.

Advancing LGBTIQ rights across Europe, 5 July 2023, Madrid

The aim of the high-level event was to promote advances in the rights of LGBTIQ people in the EU, in the framework of the European Commission's LGBTIQ Equality Strategy 2020-2025. During the event, data from the Eurobarometer on discrimination concerning LGBTIQ persons were presented. In addition, 16 Member States signed a ministerial declaration on advancing LGBTIQ rights in Europe.

Meeting of the European Platform on Combatting Homelessness, 13 September 2023, Avilés

The meeting of the European Platform on Combatting Homelessness was dedicated to pursuing the agenda and action plan of this body. At the same time, a seminar on exchanging good practices in tackling homelessness was held. In the context of the seminar, measures were highlighted that had been implemented in Spain in the framework of Recovery and Resilience Facility projects.

Conference on guaranteeing sexual and reproductive rights in Europe, 28 September 2023, Zaragoza

The aim of the event, gathering Ministers, relevant authorities and civil society, was to stress the importance and relevance of guaranteeing sexual and reproductive rights, in the framework of equality policies. A ministerial declaration on the guarantee of sexual and reproductive health and rights in the EU was signed on the occasion of the event.

Tripartite Barcelona Declaration on skills

As one of the outcomes of the high-level conference “Active labour market policies, Pillar of the European Year of Skills”, to be held in Barcelona on 19-20 October 2023, a Tripartite Declaration on Skills is being prepared with the European social partners and the European Commission, with the aim of ensuring the continuity of the objectives of the European Year of Skills.
