



MEDIA ADVISORY

Informal meeting of Ministers of Employment, Social Affairs, Family and Gender Equality, 19-20 July, Creative Hub, Tallinn

On Wednesday 19th and Thursday 20th of July, the informal meeting of Ministers of Employment, Social Affairs, Family and Gender Equality will be held at the Tallinn Creative Hub. The main theme of the meeting will be work-life balance, focusing on new forms of work, different family types and men's participation in sharing care responsibilities. After the informal meeting of Ministers of Employment, Social Affairs, Family and Gender Equality, there will be an informal meeting of Health Ministers, on Thursday and Friday, 20th-21st July. A separate media advisory will be sent to you shortly.

On Wednesday, 19th July there will be opportunities for doorstep interviews. Furthermore, an official press conference will be held at 17.30.

Draft programme

Wednesday, 19 July

09.00-10.00 Arrivals and doorstep at the Tallinn Creative Hub, Kultuurikatel

10.00 Tour de table (photo opportunity)

10.00-10.30 **Opening**

Ms Kaia Iva, Minister of Social Protection of Estonia

Mr Jevgeni Ossinovski, Minister of Health and Labour of Estonia

Ms Marianne Thyssen, Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs, Skills and Labour Mobility, European Commission

Mr Luca Visentini, General Secretary of the European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC)

Mr Maxime Cerutti, Director for Social Affairs in BusinessEurope



- 10.30-11.00 **Does Work Life Balance and Gender Equality Exist in the EU Member States?**
Mr Juan Menéndez-Valdés, Director of the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions (Eurofound)
- 11.00-11.30 Coffee Break
- 11.30-13.30 **Plenary Session I: Who Needs Work Life Balance?**
Europe is facing the dual challenge of an ageing and shrinking population, resulting in a labour shortage. People of prime working age are also those who would potentially have children and who carry the responsibilities of caring for dependent relatives. This means it is vital to take measures to successfully reconcile work, family and private life. A key issue is how to encourage a more balanced distribution of care responsibilities between men and women.

It is important to discuss which groups of employees besides parents should be provided additional work-life flexibility to fulfil their duties as carers and how does the system of parental leaves and benefits correspond to the diversity of family models. Also how to reconcile the needs of employees and employers.
- 13.30-14.00 Family Photo
14.00-15.30 Lunch Buffet
- 15.30-17.00 **Parallel Workshops: The Effectiveness of Current Work-Life Balance Measures in the Realm of Diverse Family Types and Working Arrangements**
Current work-life balance measures mainly address classical family types and working models. But as ways of living and working are evolving constantly, Member States have begun to correspond to that in their national law. In the workshops it will be discussed different practices.
- 17.15-17.30 **Signing of the Joint Trio Declaration on Gender Equality (photo opportunity)**
- 17.30-18.00 **Press Conference**



Thursday, 20 July

09.00-09.45 **Feedback from the Workshops and an Introduction to Plenary**

Including panel discussion

09.45-10.45 **Plenary Session II: Men Sharing the Care Burden**

There are many initiatives and good measures in Member States that support the role of fathers, men's role in caring for other dependants is a matter that has received far less attention. However, there is a need to create more incentives for men to participate in caring for ageing parents, grandparents and other dependants and it is important to share good practices.

10.45-11.15 Coffee Break

11.15-12.15 **Plenary Session II (continues)**

12.15-12.30 Closing

12.30-14.00 Lunch Buffet

Accreditation: Please accredit yourself through the presidency website <https://eu2017ee/accreditation>

After selecting your preferred meetings, you will receive an accreditation confirmation via email, which must be presented with your ID at the accreditation desk in the press centre, when collecting up your badge.

We recommend registering for accreditation as soon as possible. The possibilities for last-minute accreditations are limited and could include delays.

Accreditation badges can be collected at the press centre of the Tallinn Creative Hub (Kultuurikatel) as of 13.00-17.00 on 18 July and of 7.00 on 19 July.

Arrival and departure

You are kindly asked to organize your own transport to and from the Tallinn International Airport (Lennart





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Meri). A taxi stand can be found just outside the arrivals hall. The fare from the airport to the city centre is between 5 and 10 euros.

Venue

The informal meeting of the Ministers of Employment, Social affairs, Family and Gender Equality will be held at the Tallinn Creative Hub, Kultuurikatel (Põhja pst 27a, Tallinn). Kultuurikatel is the venue where all ministerial meetings during the Estonian Presidency of the EU Council will be held. Historically it used to be the Tallinn city central power station, which began operating in 1913 and closed in 1979. Nowadays it is a creative centre hosting a variety of cultural events and activities focusing on the creative industry.

Further information:

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General information about Estonia and Tallinn

For more information on attractions and sights in Tallinn and Estonia please go to:

<https://www.visittallinn.ee/eng>

<https://visitestonia.com/en>

We look forward to welcoming you to Tallinn!

