



SEMINAR

From Rhetoric to Action -

Tackling Child Poverty and Promoting Children's Health and Well-being in the EU

Hosted by Jean Lambert MEP (UK, the Greens)

Co-hosted by Marian Harkin MEP (IRL, ALDE), Edit Bauer MEP (SK, EPP) and Sylvana Rapti MEP (GR, S&D)

4 December 2012

9am – 3pm

Room: ASP 1G3

European Parliament

Brussels

PROGRAMME

8.30 – 9.00 Registration

Why now, why here, why we?

9.00 – 10.00 **Welcome and opening**

Children, poverty, health and well-being – invisible issues of EU policy-making? EC Child Poverty Recommendations – health and well-being promoting?

- Host MEP(s) (25 mins)(4 MEPs representing their political groups' positions on child poverty and health – political manifestos)
Jean Lambert MEP (UK, the Greens)
Marian Harkin MEP (IRL, ALDE)
Edit Bauer MEP (SK, EPP)
Sylvana Rapti MEP (GR, S&D)
- **Monika Kosinska**, Secretary General of European Public Health Alliance – Where is children's health in the EU's work on children and poverty? (10 mins)
- **Stefan Schaefer**s, European Programme Advisor at King Baudouin Foundation – What do philanthropic bodies working on children and poverty wish to see happen for children's better health? (10 mins)

- **Jorge Nuno Mayer**, Secretary General Caritas Europa – What can Civil Society expect from the EC Recommendation on Child Poverty? (10 mins)

Unpacking child poverty, health and well-being for comprehensive cross-sector EU approach

10.00 – 10.55 Chair: **Monika Kosinska**, Secretary General of European Public Health Alliance

Cross-sector Civil society setting the scene

Civil society health and social organisations' concerns about issues of child poverty, health and well-being. Statements organised around the themes of vital socio-economic determinants of children's health such as housing and environments, food and nutrition, care and education, rights and participation.

Statements aim to contribute to the EC Child Poverty Recommendations:

Panel of Civil Society representatives including (10 mins each)

- **Joanne Vincenten**, Director of **European Child Safety Alliance** – Impact of child poverty on **children's rights to safety**;
- **Jana Heinsworth**, Secretary General of **Eurochild** – Ensuring **rights and participation**, preventing child poverty and promoting well-being from within;
- **Sian Jones**, Policy Coordinator at **European Anti-Poverty Network** – Children as particular vulnerable group in the **Europe 2020 strategy – civil society assessment**;
- **Agnes Uherezky**, Director of **COFACE** – Resilience building of children's closest environments: **family** in the focus.

Coffee/tea served in the room, kindly sponsored by the King Baudouin Foundation

10.55 – 11.45 Chair: **Jorge Nuno Mayer**, Secretary General Caritas Europa

Responses from EU policy makers

Approach taken at the EU level towards tackling and preventing child poverty through addressing health and well-being dimension of child population, families and communities they live in.

Panel of EU representatives including (10 mins each)

- **Elodie Fazi**, **DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities**, Directorate General for Europe2020: Social Policies,
- **John F. Ryan**, **DG Health and Consumers**, Directorate General for Public Health,
- **Andor Urmos**, **DG Regional and Urban Policy**, Inclusive Growth, Territorial and Urban Development,
- **Doreen Huddart**, **Committee of the Regions**,
- **Brenda King**, **European Economic and Social Committee**, Commission for Economic and Social Policy.

11.45 – 12.30 **Panel Discussion** - Questions and Answers session with participation of Civil Society and EU policy-makers panels

12.30 – 13.15 **Lunch**, kindly sponsored by the King Baudouin Foundation

Experts' opinion: child poverty - children's health and well-being at stake?

13.15 – 13.35 **Hugh Frazer**, Coordinator of the EU network of independent experts on social inclusion – Where are children in the EU's poverty reduction target and social inclusion strategies?

13.35 – 13.55 **Naomi Eisenstadt**, Senior Research Fellow at **University of Oxford** – End Child Poverty by Investing in Children's Health.

13.55 – 14.15 **Dima Yared**, Child Advisor with **UN High Commissioner for Human Rights** – The right of a child to health: what's needed for full achievement.

14.15 – 14.40 **Open Discussion**

From Rethoric to Actions – what next?

14.40 – 15.00 **Conclusions and closing**

- Host MEP(s) (10 mins)
Jean Lambert MEP (UK, the Greens)
Marian Harkin MEP (IRL, ALDE)
Edit Bauer MEP (SK, EPP)
Sylvana Rapti MEP (GR, S&D)
- **Monika Kosinska**, Secretary General of European Public Health Alliance (10 mins)



EPHA is the European Platform bringing together public health organisations representing health professionals, patients groups, health promotion and disease specific NGOs, academic groupings and other health associations.

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