

CORPORATE PRIORITIES

Work for an SGI friendly recovery post COVID-19:

Building up on the contacts established with the European Commission's RECOVER, SGI Europe will continue to plead for making the post-COVID-19 recovery SGI-centred. Actions will focus on the following priorities:

- Support our members in lobbying their national government for SGI-friendly National Recovery and Resilience Plans
- Lobby for a strong place for SGIs in the implementation of the MFF
- Relaunch the work for the setting up of an EP interest group on SGIs
- Build and promote a new paradigm for SGIs, based on the "day after the recovery"

Put SGIs at the centre of sustainable finance:

With its seat in the Platform on sustainable finance, SGI Europe will reinforce its involvement in the debates on the promotion of sustainable finances in the EU. As the issue will remain at the top of the agenda with the implementation of the NGEU and the MFF, targeted actions will aim at:

- Lobbying for an SGIs friendly completion of taxonomy regulations
- Modernising our CSR Label with a reinforced focus on the financing of the sustainable transition

Maximise the potential of SGI Europe seats in transversal platforms and organisations:

In 2020, in the shaping of the new EU institutional landscape following the EU elections, SGI Europe ensured its presence in several transversal expert groups and platforms. On top of our representatives in technical expert groups, SGI Europe will particularly focus on:

- Using the seat in the Expert group on Sustainable Finance to achieve our priorities on taxonomy and promoting the CSR Label
- Using the seat in the Fit-for-Future Platform to increase the place of SGI in the "Foresight approach" developed by the European Commission, in line with the new paradigm for SGIs
- Using the Vice-Presidency in European Movement International to reinforce the role and the place of SGI Europe within the Conference on the Future of Europe

Overview the launch and operation of ad hoc working groups on:

- Digital policies
- Equality
- Industrial strategy

Increase CEEP representativity (membership recruitment):

- Work with members on the Eurofound representativity study of the cross-sectoral Social Partners launched in 2020, and continuing throughout 2021
- Reinforce the presence of SGI Europe in the Employers' Group of the European Economic and Social Committee

Reinforce representation within existing National sections (membership retention):

- Enlarge the scope of our membership, including big and small organisations, active at both national, regional and local levels, and representing hard and soft infrastructures

MEETINGS AND IMPORTANT DATES

Statutory meetings:

- 17 June 2021 (TBC)
- 15 December 2021 (TBC)

PUBLIC SERVICES BOARD	SOCIAL AFFAIRS BOARD	SUSTAINABILITY BOARD
<p>Services of general interest</p> <p>The observation and protection of SGIs & LPSEs will be an essential part. On the basis of the Rethinking the Acquis Communautaire paper and the updated Acquis+ Glossary, the PSB will further discuss and promote the “Acquis+ package”. The PSB will organize a cross-Board roundtable on “SGIs facing Covid-19” on the impact of the crisis, and the needs and lessons learnt. The PSB will also monitor the upcoming initiatives regarding trade policy (in particular the “Schengen package”).</p> <p>SMEs and LPSEs</p> <p>The PSB will promote the new Opinion on the SME definition “Rethinking the SME definition” and maintain ongoing communication with stakeholders on the topic. This will also require a specific action to push the reform of the “SME strategy for a sustainable and digital Europe” of March 2020. In order to communicate the new Opinion on the SME definition at European level, the PSB will address in particular the European Commission, the European Parliament and the upcoming EU presidencies.</p> <p>Cohesion policy</p> <p>The PSB will look at how cohesion policy can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ power the recovery and the twin transitions, ○ address widening regional disparities both before and after Covid-19, ○ help tackle emerging social and economic issues. <p>To increase its knowledge and thereby improve its policy responses, the Commission will put forward an assessment of the situation in regions, and develop a long-term vision for rural areas to harness the potential of regions to the maximum.</p> <p>Competition policy</p> <p>The Commission plans a series of major changes and reviews of competition initiatives in 2021 that will focus on the digital single market. REFIT initiatives include a revision of the Communication on Important Projects of Common European Interest and an</p>	<p>EU Social Partners’ Work Programme 2019-21 finalisation and integrated projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Skills, follow-up of the project on skills and innovation also covering the question of access to training in the EU. ○ Circular economy, Follow-up of the project covering the transformations our member enterprises face both in terms of production processes and job profiles. ○ Capacity-building for a stronger social dialogue, continuation of the cycle of capacity building projects covering eastern and central Member States and candidate countries. ○ Start of the discussions with BusinessEurope, SMEUnited and ETUC on the next cycle of EU Social Partners activities for the future 2021-2023 Work programme <p>Legislative agenda of the European Commission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Follow-up on the new Commission’s initiative in the fields of social affairs ○ Follow-up and lobby on the future action plan to implement the EU Pillar of Social rights ○ Lobby to Council and Parliament regarding the directive proposal for fair minimum wages ○ Lobby to Council and Parliament regarding the future EU legislative initiative on Pay transparency (Not yet published by the EC) ○ Follow-up of EU Gender Equality Strategy, ○ Response to the Social Partners consultation on improving the labour conditions of platform workers (consultations of social partners foreseen early 2021) ○ Follow-up of any new relevant initiative on collective bargaining under the supervision of Commissioner Schmit 	<p>European Green Deal</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Sustainability Board will continue its intense work for a decarbonised and sustainable economy, society and environment as reflected in CEEP’s Opinion on the EU Green Deal and actively contribute to the wide -ranging topics within this ambitious roadmap. Building on these three dimensions, the Board believes in a true success for a better way of life that can be measured beyond the GDP growth statistics and look ahead of what makes Europe modern and resilient. • The main work for the Board will be to make the transition from Vision to Action a reality, providing real examples from across its public services and add valuable insights to reach for a climate-neutral Europe by 2050. The Board will here continue work on the EU Climate Law integration and add valuable insights from the public services and SGIs to the European Commission’s ‘Fit for 55 Package’. • With the devastating effects shown during the COVID-19 pandemic, public services and SGIs have relentlessly performed and kept the critical infrastructure running ensuring a stable energy supply, clean water, clean and safe streets, reliable public transport for essential front-line workers as well as a stable communication and high internet quality for the at home-office front. At the same time, the effects of climate change have not decreased, nor have they improved. Reasons for less pollutions are only credited to the low to zero economic activity during lockdown and not due to active action. The Board is prepared to rethink our structures and is ready to take this momentum to deeper enforce climate actions there where it is desperately needed. • For this reason, the Board will actively contribute and support the European Commission on its Strategic Foresight Report that looks at the recovery of the Covid crisis and takes the next step towards more resilience.

<p>evaluation of the Commission Notice on market definition in EU competition law.</p> <p>In the field of digitalisation and data policy, the PSB will continue its cooperation with the cross-board working group on the Digital Services Act, to become ad hoc working group on Digital Policies, should the General Assembly approves the proposal.</p> <p>State aid</p> <p>In the field of state aid, many initiatives are being launched under REFIT. These will be reviewed, in particular with regard to the digital single market and the Green Deal.</p> <p>These are the REFIT initiatives regarding State aid:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Revision of Regional Aid Guidelines ○ Revision of the Energy and Environmental Aid Guideline ○ Revision of the Framework for State aid research, development and innovation ○ Revision of the State Aid General Block Exemption (GBER) ○ Evaluation of State aid rules for broadband infrastructure deployment ○ Evaluation of State aid rules for health and social services of general economic interest <p style="text-align: center;">Meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● April 2021 (TBD) ● November 2021 (TBD) 	<p style="text-align: center;">Meetings</p> <p><i>Social Affairs Board (tbc):</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 2 February 2021 ● 15 June 2021 ● 27 September 2021 <p><i>Social Dialogue Committee (tbc):</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 3 February 2021 ● 16 June 2021 ● 28 September 2021 <p><i>Annual Sustainable Growth Strategy (tbc)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 29 September 2021 – consultation hearing ahead ASGS 	<p>Sustainable Transition and Finances</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Following up on the intense work to bring public services and SGIs at the front of the conversation on identifying sustainable activities, CEEP has been selected as permanent observer of the Sustainable Finance Platform (The Platform) developing the six remaining delegated acts of the EU Taxonomy Regulation. Within the Technical Working Group (TWG) CEEP Vice-President Filippo Brandolini will jointly work with other EU Stakeholders on the technical definitions of the taxonomy that will in the future define what a sustainable business is and implies the important role of public services and SGIs. ● Additionally, the Board will be responding, with the support of the Macroeconomic Task Force, to the upcoming EU Green Bond consultations that are planned for Q2 2021. ● Additionally, the Board will follow up and monitor the final stages of the Just Transition Fund allowing our members to understand the new and important financial tools that can facilitate the tough transition from a fossil fuel based economy to a more decarbonised technology solutions. ● In this context, the Board will continue to strengthen the link between SGIs and modern sustainable solutions for all European citizens and will continue to base its discussions on the three main pillars: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Investment ○ Inclusion ○ Resilience <p style="text-align: center;">Meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 18 February 2021 ● 23 September 2021
PUBLIC SERVICES BOARD	SOCIAL AFFAIRS BOARD	SUSTAINABILITY BOARD

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SGI & Stat TF	Internal Market TF	Macro-economic TF	Social Protection TF	Communications TF	Energy TF	Environment TF	Transport TF	Water TF
Permanent monitoring of trade policy and its impact on public services and SGIs	<p>Close monitoring of and lead on reaction on possible review of Europe's Competition rules in general and any upcoming review of the EU State Aid regulatory framework in particular</p> <p>Permanent monitoring of VAT policy and input to the work of the Communications TF on Digital Taxation</p>	<p>Regular input to the European Semester process: Annual sustainable growth strategy, Country reports and Country specific recommendations</p> <p>Monitoring of the implementation of Next generation EU and the Recovery and Resilience facility including lobby and contact with EU institutions to promote members priorities for investments</p> <p>Macroeconomic dialogue at technical and political level with Council and Commission (DG ECOFIN)</p> <p>Review of the growth and stability pact rules and discussions on the general macroeconomic situation in the aftermath of COVID-crisis</p>	<p>Follow-up and preparation of input for the future European Commission's Green Paper on ageing, launching a debate on long-term impacts, notably on care and pensions, and on how to foster active ageing and close monitoring of European Parliament activity with regard to Pension developments in the EU</p> <p>Monitoring of the implementation of the High Level Group of experts on supplementary pensions' report and in particular promotion of the role of Social Partners in IORPS</p> <p>Support to SAB on the Social Partners consultation for improving the labor conditions of Platform workers when it comes to access to social protection</p>	<p>Active Input: Adding contribution to the work of the cross-board Working Group on Digital Policies, which will include: - Platform regulation (Digital Services Act and the Digital Markets Act) regulatory framework for large digital platforms - Digital taxation Support fair taxation of the digital economy - Data Governance Act - Cybersecurity and technological sovereignty to support a harmonized cybersecurity framework and contribute to the work on European certification schemes (cloud, IoT, 5G)</p>	<p>Active Input: Renovation Wave and its upcoming revisions and proposals Renewable Energy Directive (RES), Energy Efficiency Directive (EED), Energy Performance in Buildings Directive (EPBD), Revision of the Third Energy Package on Gas Reply to upcoming consultation and impact assessments on: - Energy Performance Certificates (EPC) which includes a mandatory minimum energy performance standard for all buildings</p>	<p>Active Input: Circular Economy Action Plan. This includes: Revision of Packaging & Waste Packaging Directive, Revision of the Batteries Directive, the development of the End of waste regulation at EU level Packaging and Waste Packaging Directive Zero Pollution Action Plan Revision on Eco-Design Directive Following up: Joint work with the Water TF on the revision on UWWTD and Sludge Methane Strategy on waste methane measures European Battery Strategy 8th Environmental Action Programme following up on</p>	<p>Active Input: Sustainable and Smart Mobility Strategy Year of Rail 2021 support the inclusion of urban areas and cities transportations Revision on TEN-E Following up: Revision of the Emission Trading System (ETS) Alternative Fuels Directive Monitoring: Discussions on Sustainable Transport as a safe and affordable-strategy for sustainable and smart mobility Following up the transposition phase on Open Data and PSI-Directive creating a level playing field for public and private entities</p>	<p>Active Input: Zero Pollution Action Plan Support a sufficient water action plan for chemicals in water supply and creating a strong link to the Urban Water Waste Treatment Directive Revision of Sludge Directive Revision of the UWWTD Following up: Water Framework Directive and its daughter Directives Climate Adaptation 8th Environmental Action Programme, following up on the 'No Harm' Proposals Biodiversity Strategy in relation to Future of Soil</p>

				<p>- Promote Data and artificial intelligence and create level playing field with over-the-top, often extra-European players, on the processing of electronic communications and metadata (e-privacy)</p> <p>- Contribute to a targeted and risk-based legal framework for AI to support intellectual property and fair remuneration</p> <p>Follow-up: Investment in networks</p> <p>- Promote a favorable framework for European cloud projects</p> <p>- Contribute to the new European action plan on 5G and 6G.</p> <p>- Ensure that content/media industry in</p>	<p>- Energy Audits in the EED revision</p> <p>Follow-up: Revision on Ten-E</p> <p>Alternative Fuels Directive</p> <p>Revision of the Emission Trading System (ETS)</p> <p>Offshore Renewable Energy Plan</p> <p>Reducing Methane Emission in the Energy Sector (including the proposal of the Methane Strategy to develop a Methane reporting system)</p> <p>Energy Taxation Directive</p> <p>Smart and Sustainable Mobility Strategy</p> <p>Monitoring: Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM)</p>	<p>the 'No Harm' proposal</p> <p>Guidelines for separate collection of Municipal Waste</p> <p>Monitoring: Waste Shipment</p>	<p>Strategy for a healthy ecosystem</p> <p>Methane Strategy in relation to the development with Sludge Directive</p> <p>Monitoring: Water Reuse</p> <p>Drinking Water Directive</p> <p>Concession Directive on water issues</p>
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				<p>Europe can thrive and gives safe access to reliable news and information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promote democracy to support the media and audiovisual sector in upcoming EU Action Plans <p>Monitoring: Promote a more inclusive society through Digitalisation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Digital training/ skills, information and media literacy - Digital social inclusion <p>In coordination with the work of the Social Affairs Board</p>	Just Transition Fund			
<p>Meetings The SGIs Task Force will meet in the framework of the PSB, unless the need for additional ad hoc meetings arise in the course of the year.</p>	<p>Meetings The Internal Market Task Force will meet in the framework of the PSB, unless the need for additional ad hoc meetings arise in the course of the year.</p>	<p>Meetings TBD</p>	<p>Meetings TBD</p>	<p>Meetings March TBD May/June TBD October/November TBD</p>	<p>Meetings March 16 June 29 October 28</p>	<p>Meetings March 2 June 3 October 12</p>	<p>Meetings March 15 June 21 TBC November 11</p>	<p>Meetings March 3 June 2 October 13</p>
SGI & Stat TF	Internal Market TF	Macro-economic TF	Social Protection TF	Communications TF	Energy TF	Environment TF	Transport TF	Water TF