

CORPORATE PRIORITIES

1. Positioning SGIs within the current European policy paradigm: Owning the narrative on Preparedness, competitiveness and security

- Positioning **SGIs as key actors and enablers of the EU's economic security, democratic legitimacy and territorial cohesion.**
- Anchoring an **SGI-friendly EU Preparedness Union Strategy** around the identified “vital societal functions” (such as health, water, energy, transport, digital services, public service media, etc).
- Leading strategic foresight work on how **digitalisation** (including data governance and AI), **cybersecurity** and **emerging threats** are reshaping SGIs.
- Shaping the strategic thinking on how to safeguard the **EU's sovereignty, resilience and preparedness.**
- Building an alliance around **Freedom to Stay and reinforcing the SGIs Network.**

2. Continuing the advocacy towards the EU institutions:

- **European Commission:** Reinforce relationships with the current College of Commissioners, with a particular focus on EVP Ribera, EVP Séjourné, EVP Minzatu and EVP Fitto.
- **European Parliament:** In a very fragmented political landscape and changing majorities, strategically use the Intergroup on SGIs to expand contacts across committees, political groups and other intergroups.
- **European Council:** Advocate for integration of SGIs into the EU Strategic Agenda, resilience commitments, and competitiveness roadmaps.

3. Leading membership recruitment and retention:

- Continue to **promote and develop activities with SGI Europe sections** and members to grow and develop existing sections.
- Lead the **setting up of new national sections** to improve SGI Europe representativeness, **with a focus in 2026 on Ireland.**
- **Enlarge the scope of our membership**, including big and small organisations, active at national, regional and local levels and representing hard and soft infrastructures.

MEETINGS AND IMPORTANT DATES

Statutory meetings:

- 23 June 2026.
- XX December 2026.

SOCIAL AFFAIRS BOARD

Chair:

- **Jeanette GRENFOR** (SE)

Vice-chairs:

- **Michael DE GOLS** (Benelux)
- **Elvira GENTILE** (IT)
- **Urban SIEBERTS** (DE)

Priorities:

EU Social Partners' activities:

- **Pursue the work to implement the Pact for social dialogue** and in particular the bipartite activities defined within.
- Continue the **negotiations of the new Work programme for the cross-industry social dialogue** (2025-2027), ensuring that the interests of SGI Europe's members are well-represented and that the new activities support national social partners' work, with full respect of their autonomy.
- **Integrated project of the EU Social partners:** on "Improving skills matching in Europe", through the active participation in the activities of the project, ensure the visibility of SGI providers in its deliverables. SAB will also contribute to the implementation of the employer separate project on sectoral coordination to reinforce the cooperation between sectoral and cross-sectoral employers.

The Social Affairs Board and its taskforces will work closely together on all issues of shared relevance and will support each other, in particular on matters arising from the implementation of the EU Social Partners' Work Programme.

Legislative and non-legislative activities:

- Follow up on the publication of the **new Action Plan on the Implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights**. Assess its implications for SGI Europe members, including the references to social partners, and engage with the Commission to ensure that implementation respects social partner autonomy.
- Follow up on the **publication of the Quality Jobs Roadmap** and assess its implications for SGI Europe members. Contribute to the preparation of the upcoming Quality Jobs Act expected in Q4 2026, ensuring that the approach reconciles the objectives of employers and workers and avoids creating additional administrative burden.
- **Ensure continued vigilance on telework and the right to disconnect** following the adoption of SGI Europe's response to the second stage consultation. Monitor closely how a possible legislative initiative could re-emerge, including through the Quality Jobs Act, and engage with the Commission to ensure that any future proposal reflects the lessons learnt from the social partners negotiations.
- Influence the **preparation of the traineeship directive** and ensure the recognition of the interest of SGIs without creating unreasonable administrative burden.
- Follow the **future proposal on the European Teachers and Trainers Agenda** together with the Education and training taskforce.
- Contribute to the **preparation of the labour mobility package for Q3 2026**, including the European Social Security Pass, the proposal to strengthen the European Labour Authority and the skills portability initiative, with the support of the Education and Training Taskforce and the Social Protection Taskforce.
- Engage with the Commission on the **new Gender Equality Strategy 2026-2030 and on the enhanced Strategy for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities** up to 2030, highlighting the role of SGI Europe members in promoting inclusive employment, accessibility and equal opportunities.
- Continue **monitoring the implementation of key EU labour directives**, including the Minimum Wage Directive following the recent Court ruling, the Platform Work Directive with the expert group's final report expected in December, and the Pay Transparency Directive as Member States advance with transposition.
- **Cooperation with the Macroeconomic Task Force** on relevant dossiers, such as the work on the European Semester Cycle and the Multiannual Financial Framework.
- Mutual support and **cooperation with the work of the Internal Market Board and the Sustainability Board**, as needed, on other initiatives such as on artificial intelligence, algorithmic management, the revision of the public procurement directives and fair climate transition initiatives.

Meetings

Social Affairs Board:

- *Tuesday 3 February 2026*
- *Tuesday 23 June 2026*
- *Tuesday 29 September 2025*

Social dialogue committee

- *Wednesday 4 February 2026 – Social Dialogue Committee or Work Programme negotiation meeting (depending on DG Nava’s availability)*
- *Thursday 5 February 2026 – Work Programme negotiation meeting or Social Dialogue Committee (alternative order to be confirmed by the Commission)*
- *Wednesday 24 June 2026*
- *Wednesday 30 September 2026*

Macroeconomics TF

Chair:

- **Tor HATLEVOLL** (SE)

Vice-Chairs:

- **Cosimo PACCIANI** (IT)
- **Reinhold RICKES** (DE)

Priorities files:

Active input

- **Regular inputs to the European Semester cycle**, including the Annual Sustainable Growth Survey, Country Reports and Country Specific Recommendations
- Preparation of **SGI Europe’s contributions to the Macroeconomic Dialogue** at technical and political level with the Council and the Commission, building on the 2026 Commission priority of accelerating Single Market reforms and removing barriers to investment.
- Contribution to **SGI Europe positions on the 2028–2034 Multiannual Financial Framework** and on the European Competitiveness Fund, ensuring that SGI Europe priorities are reflected in the design of the final proposal.

Monitoring

- Monitor the **Commission’s Savings and Investment Union proposals**, including innovative tools for long-term financing and capital market deepening.

Social Protection TF

Chair:

- **Klaus STÜRMER** (DE)

Vice-chair:

- **Johannes ISAKSSON** (Se)

Priority files:

Active input

- Provide coordinated SGI Europe input on the **Commission’s Supplementary Pension Package** published in November 2025, including the revisions of the **IORP II Directive** and the **PEPP Regulation**, as well as the recommendations on pension tracking systems, dashboards and auto-enrolment. Organise internal exchanges in early 2026 and respond to EIOPA work where relevant to prepare SGI Europe’s contribution to the legislative process.

- Prepare SGI Europe contributions to the **Fair Labour Mobility Package**, including the European Social Security Pass

Monitoring

- Monitor EU initiatives announced for 2026 related to **pensions, social protection and inclusion**.
- **Track national policy developments** through structured inputs from members, ensuring comparative reporting on pensions, health insurance, long-term care financing and social protection reforms.

Health & Safety TF

Chair:

- **Pawel LANGOWSKI** (PL)

Priority files:

Active input

- Support SGI Europe's contributions to the **implementation of the EU Social Partners' Work Programme** on topics related to health and safety at work.
- Provide expertise to SGI Europe's input in the **Advisory Committee on Health and Safety**, with a particular focus on psychosocial risks, mental well-being and developments in work organisation linked to digitalisation.

Monitoring

- Follow EU-level discussions on the impact of **digitalisation on working conditions and risk prevention**, and provide evidence from SGI Europe members .
- Monitor **emerging health and safety themes** that may arise to determine whether further SGI Europe input is required.

Vocational Education and Training TF

Chair:

- **Rossitsa STELLIANOVA** (BG)

Priority files:

Active input:

- **Contribute to the Skills Portability Initiative under the Fair Labour Mobility Package**. Work carried out jointly with the Social Protection Taskforce where relevant.
- Engage in the development of **initiatives related to the Union of Skills Agenda**, such as the Basic Skills Support Scheme and the 2030 Roadmap on the Future of Digital Education and Skills
- Follow the future proposal on the **Teachers and Trainers Agenda** together with the Social Affairs Board and assess whether and how SGI Europe can provide input, depending on its scope, focus and relevance for SGI Europe members.

Monitoring:

- Monitor EU developments related to **labour mobility**, including the Fair Labour Mobility Package to identify implications for the recognition of qualifications, training requirements and staff movement across borders.
- Follow the **implementation of national strategies on basic skills, digital education and adult learning**, and collect information from members on reforms affecting training supply, accreditation and workforce planning.
- Monitor Commission messages in the context of the **European Semester**, including **skills shortages, teacher availability and performance of training systems**.

SUSTAINABILITY BOARD

Chair:

- **Alain TACCOEN** (FR)

Vice-chairs:

- **Stefan CHAYKOV** (BG)
- **Lina FURCH** (DE)
- **Sebastian GONET** (PL)

Priorities:

- Active work on the **EU Climate Resilience Strategy and strengthening the Security and Preparedness Strategy** from the critical infrastructure perspective:
 - Active contribution to the public consultation of the EU Climate Resilience Strategy.
 - Drafting an accompanying opinion paper (main focus on prevention, building preparedness, security measures, as well as the concept of Freedom to Stay).
- Coordinated work on the **EU Circular Economy Act** with all Task Forces:
 - **Active advocacy on the SGI Europe Opinion** to the European Commission (DG ENER, ENV, TRAN, CLIMA).
 - Preparation of a reaction paper on the **EU Climate Resilience Strategy** with a focus on prevention, creating a secondary raw material market and building an SGI circular critical infrastructure along with the Freedom to Stay concept.
- **Implementation Dialogues and support to the first EU Anti-Poverty Strategy:**
 - Active **contribution from all Task Forces to define and identify the cause, treatment and prevention of poverty** in different sectors.
 - Select experts from Task Forces for social partners' hearings with the European Commission.
- Monitoring and following the work on the **Sustainable Finance Framework**, in particular the finalisation of the EU Taxonomy Regulation:
 - Active input in the **finalisation phase of the EU Taxonomy**
 - **Position papers and contributions to simplify the EU Taxonomy**
- **Cloud and AI Development Act** (Legislative file for Q1)
 - Due to the wide and **deep impact on energy and water consumption**, the Sustainability Board would like to explore if actions are needed.
 - The aim is to engage with DG CNCT, CLIMA and ENV to raise **awareness of the impact of large data centres** in Europe

Meetings:

- 25 February 2026
- 27 May 2026
- 24 September 2026

Communications TF

Chair:

- Martine ALLAIRE (FR)

Vice-chair :

- Maciej LEGUTKO (PL)

General Rapporteur:

- Wouter GEKIERE (EBU)

Priority files:

Active Input:

- Following the development and implementation of the **AI Act**
- Contribution to the IMB on:
 - the **Digital Omnibus**
 - Reflection on **GDPR**: Risk-based orientation and more adaptation to new technology and innovation.

Monitoring:

- **Security and Trust online** (following up Digital Fairness and Cyber Security) for the critical infrastructure and services
- Contribution to **well-being at work** from the telecommunication sector
- **Cyber Security**

Energy TF

Chair:

- Elmar THYEN (DE)

Vice-Chairs:

- Eleonora CAPACCIOLI (IT)

Priority files:

Active Input:

- **EU Energy Union** package regarding:
 - Energy efficiency framework
 - Renewable energy framework
- In cooperation with the Sustainability Board:
 - **Governance of the Energy Union and Climate Action**

Monitoring:

- Strengthening **Energy Security Framework**
- **Electrification Action Plan**, including Heating and Cooling Strategy
- In cooperation with IMB:
 - **Omnibus, simplification in energy**

Meetings:

- 5 March 2026
- 18 June 2026
- 19 November 2026

Environment TF

Chair:

- **Bernardo PICCIOLI** (IT)

Vice-Chairs:

- **Janusz KARWOT** (PL)

Priority files:

Active input:

- In cooperation with Sustainability Board: **EU Circular Economy Act:**
 - **Plastic Waste** and Incineration
 - Focus on **implementation and enforcement of existing legislation**
 - **Investment strategy**
 - **Wastewater by-products**
 - **Circular Economy (CE)** and its impact on water sector
- In cooperation with IMB:
 - Omnibus environment

Monitoring:

- **Emission Trading Scheme** in the waste sector
- **CO2 Market infrastructure**
- **EU critical raw materials act**
- **Bioeconomy**

Meetings:

- 31 March 2026
- 9 June 2026
- 17 November 2026

Transport TF

Chair:

- **Mihai CHIRCA** (FR)

Vice-chairs:

- **Martin SCHÄFER** (DE)

Priority files:

Active input:

- **Promote public transport and modal shift** from Road to Rail via:
 - **Clean Corporate Vehicles** (Q1 2026)
 - **Ticketing and rail passenger rights** (Q1 2026)

Monitoring:

- ETS 2 + implementation of the **Social Climate Fund**
- STIP – **Sustainable Transport Investment Plan**
- EU periodic roadworthiness directive
- CO₂ standards for heavy-duty vehicles

Meetings:

- 5 March 2026
- 18 June 2026
- 19 November 2026

Water TF

Chair:

- **Michele FALCONE** (IT)

Vice-Chairs

- **Hans de GROENE** (Benelux)
- **Borislav VELIKOV** (BG)

General Rapporteur

- **Davide SCAGLIONE** (IT)

Priority files:

Active input:

- Active input on the implementation of the **EU Water Resilience Strategy**:
 - **Direct action through written feedback and position papers** via the SGI Europe Water TF experts to the Sustainability Board
 - Subject of high relevance: Safeguard nature-based solutions, polluter-pays principle, implementation of EPR scheme, funding and investments, protection of water quality and quantity and smart-water metering.
- Development on Draft report on **PFAS/TFA by ECHA- written response to consultation**
- In **cooperation with Sustainability Board**:
 - **EU Climate Resilience Strategy**
- In cooperation with **IMB**:
 - **Omnibus Environment**

Monitoring:

- Follow the **development on the Common Agriculture Pact** (CAP) in regards to protection of drinking water
- Cooperation with **IMB**:
 - **Public procurement and concession directive**
- Implementation process of the **EU Critical Raw Materials Act**
- Assessment of the **EU Water Acquis** (Water Framework Directive + daughter Directives, Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive, Nitrate and Sewage Sludge Directive)
- Issues on **cross-border water management**
- Following the **European Commission Water Working Groups**

Meetings:

- 31 March 2026
- 9 June 2026
- 17 November 2026

INTERNAL MARKET BOARD

Chair:

- **Nadine FISCHER** (DE)

Vice-chairs:

- **Luigi Joseph DEL GIACCO** (IT)
- **Benjamin GALLEPE** (FR)

Priorities:

Public procurement:

- Prepare a comprehensive response to the public consultation and a position paper on the **revision of the 2014 public procurement rules**, advocating for an enabling legislative framework that supports high-quality SGIs and delivers real value for public investment without overburdening the actors in public procurement processes.
- Support and engage with the Sustainability Board to ensure coherence with their work on **circularity and to integrate relevant insights into our efforts on public procurement**.

Competition and State aid:

- Work to ensure that the **new approach of the European Commission to competition policy and State aid reaffirms and supports the role of services of general interest**, not as residual interventions resulting from market failures, but as structural contributors to the EU's competitiveness, resilience and the social model.
- Contribute to the **revision of the General Block Exemption Regulation** (GBER), advocating for simplification of the rules and reduction of bureaucratic burdens, while ensuring that public authorities have the flexibility needed to design support measures according to their realities and needs.
- Follow and prepare responses to other relevant **calls for evidence and public consultations in the competition and State aid field**.

SME Definition:

- Planning advocacy actions and identifying and building alliances on the **revision of the SME definition** in a way that does not exclude publicly owned SMEs.
- **Organise an event on the SME Definition** within the Intergroup on Services of General Interest and the Social Economy.

Omnibus and simplification:

- Monitor ongoing and new initiatives for **simplification, reduction of reporting requirements and Omnibus proposals** that may impact SGI providers, such as the ones in the digital, environmental and energy fields.
- Identify opportunities to **contribute to simplification efforts and reactivate advocacy if risks and opportunities are identified** during the consultation or legislative process, with the support of the expertise from the relevant task forces.

Meetings:

- Three meetings of the Board in 2026, with the first meeting taking place on 04/02.
- Additional extraordinary meetings will be organised as needed, particularly on public procurement.

ANNEX AND EXPLANATION

On top of its focus on the key topics which SGI Europe will address in 2026, this SGI Europe Work Programme also provides information on the way of working for each of SGI Europe's boards, including the coordination structures now in place to guarantee the coherent articulation between corporate priorities, priorities of the boards and the task forces.

Corporate coordination:

- Corporate coordination primarily takes place through the cooperation of the General Secretary with the Chairs of the three Boards (SAB, SUST, IMB).

Corporate and cross-board coordination:

- The coordination across the three boards of SGI Europe is taking place through regular exchanges between the General Secretariat and the Chairs of the three boards and through coordination meetings between the three Chairs.

Social Affairs Board (SAB):

- SAB is mostly focusing on SGI Europe's activities stemming from its status as an EU cross-industry social partner, including negotiations of agreements with the EU social partners, the roll-out of joint projects, and the contribution to legislative proposals before the European Commission taking action in the social field (Art. 154/155 TFEU).
- The SAB and its task forces are working in close cooperation with each other. Task Force Chairs and Vice Chairs are encouraged to participate in SAB meetings to report on their work and discuss issues of common interest.
- The coordination with the Social Affairs Board mostly takes place through the SAB Management, which gathers the chair, vice-chairs, the general rapporteur of the Social Affairs Board, and the general secretariat.
- Another level of coordination takes place via coordination meetings with the board and the task forces.

Sustainability Board (SUSTB):

- The SUSTB gathers SGI Europe's members from the energy, transport, water, waste management and telecommunications sectors. The Board act proactively to deliver core messages about the green transition and critical infrastructure, and further support SGI Europe's activities at the corporate level, as well as within the SAB (and social dialogue activities) and the IMB.
- Continuation of the "Chair Coordination Meetings" for the Chairs and Vice-chairs of the Board and all chairs of the Board's Task Forces, with a focus on coordinating activities.

Internal Market Board (IMB):

- The IMB focuses on transversal issues of interest for SGIs. Such issues include, but are not limited to, the impact of the rules of the internal market on the provision of SGIs, competition policy, the simplification and implementation agenda and the balance between economic growth and social and territorial cohesion.
- The coordination with the IMB will continue to take place through regular coordination meetings between SGI Europe's General Secretariat, the Chair and the Vice-chairs of the Board.