

PRESENTATION OF THE EUROPEAN SEMESTER PROCESS

MATHIAS MAUCHER

Policy Staff - Health and Social Services
European Federation of Public Service Union
EPSU

IMPORTANCE OF HEALTH IN THE EUROPEAN SEMESTER



GUIDELINES

Broad Economic Policy Guidelines

G2: "...social system reforms need to be pursued in order to promote growth and employment, while ensuring access for all to high quality, affordable and sustainable social services and benefits."

Employment Guidelines

G8: "Member States should improve the quality, accessibility, efficiency and effectiveness of health and long-term care systems, while safeguarding sustainability."

EUROPEAN PILLAR OF SOCIAL RIGHTS

Healthcare

- Everyone has the right to timely access to affordable, preventive and curative health care of good quality;
- All dimensions of health system need to be addressed with integrated approach to come to a meaningful policy decision making.

WHAT CAN BE DONE IN THE HOSPITAL SECTOR?

Improving Financing

- Combine activity-based payments with global budgets and pay-for-performance schemes.

Reducing operational costs

- Optimise purchasing strategies of medical and non-medical good.

Structural reforms

- Plan hospital capacities considering full health system: primary to highly specialised care, social care;
- Improve the deployment of eHealth;
- Measure and compare hospital performance;
- Deploy policies reducing the demand for emergency care services and divert inappropriate visits away from emergency care units;
- Consider introducing cost-sharing for inappropriate emergency care use and reduce/eliminate payments for primary care visits.

SOCIAL PARTNERS IN THE SEMESTER

How can social partners influence the outcomes of the Semester?



Through interactions at European and national levels

AT THE EUROPEAN LEVEL

- Cross-sectoral social partners
- Annual Growth Survey
- Discussions with Member States and Commission in committees
- Informal consultations / discussions assessing important challenges
- Written contributions and feedback
- Tripartite Social Summit and the macro-economic dialogue

AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL

3 Important milestones – country missions

- **October-November**, in preparation of the Country Reports;
- **March**, after the publication of the Country Reports;
- **June**, after the publication of the draft CSRs.

National Reform Programmes

The main responsibility for a good involvement at national level remains with the Member State.

Broad Category	Policy areas	AT	BE	BG	CY	CZ	DE	DK	EE	EL*	ES	FI	FR	HR	HU	IE	IT	LT	LU	LV	MT	NL	PL	PT	RO	SE	SI	SK	UK
Public finances & taxation	Fiscal policy & fiscal governance																												
	Long-term sustainability of public finances, inc. pensions																												
	Reduce the tax burden on labour																												
	Broaden tax bases																												
	Reduce the debt bias																												
	Fight against tax evasion, improve tax administration & tackle tax avoidance																												
Financial sector	Financial services																												
	Housing market																												
	Access to finance																												
	Private indebtedness																												
Labour market, education & social policies	Employment protection legislation & framework for labour contracts																												
	Unemployment benefits																												
	Active labour market policies																												
	Incentives to work, job creation, labour market participation																												
	Wages & wage setting																												
	Childcare																												
	Health & long-term care																												
	Poverty reduction & social inclusion																												
	Education																												
	Skills & life-long learning																												
Structural policies	Research & innovation																												
	Competition & regulatory framework																												
	Competition in services																												
	Telecom, postal services & local public services																												
	Energy, resources & climate change																												
	Transport																												
Public administration & business environment	Business environment																												
	Insolvency framework																												
	Public administration																												
	State-owned enterprises																												
	Civil justice																												
	Shadow economy & corruption																												

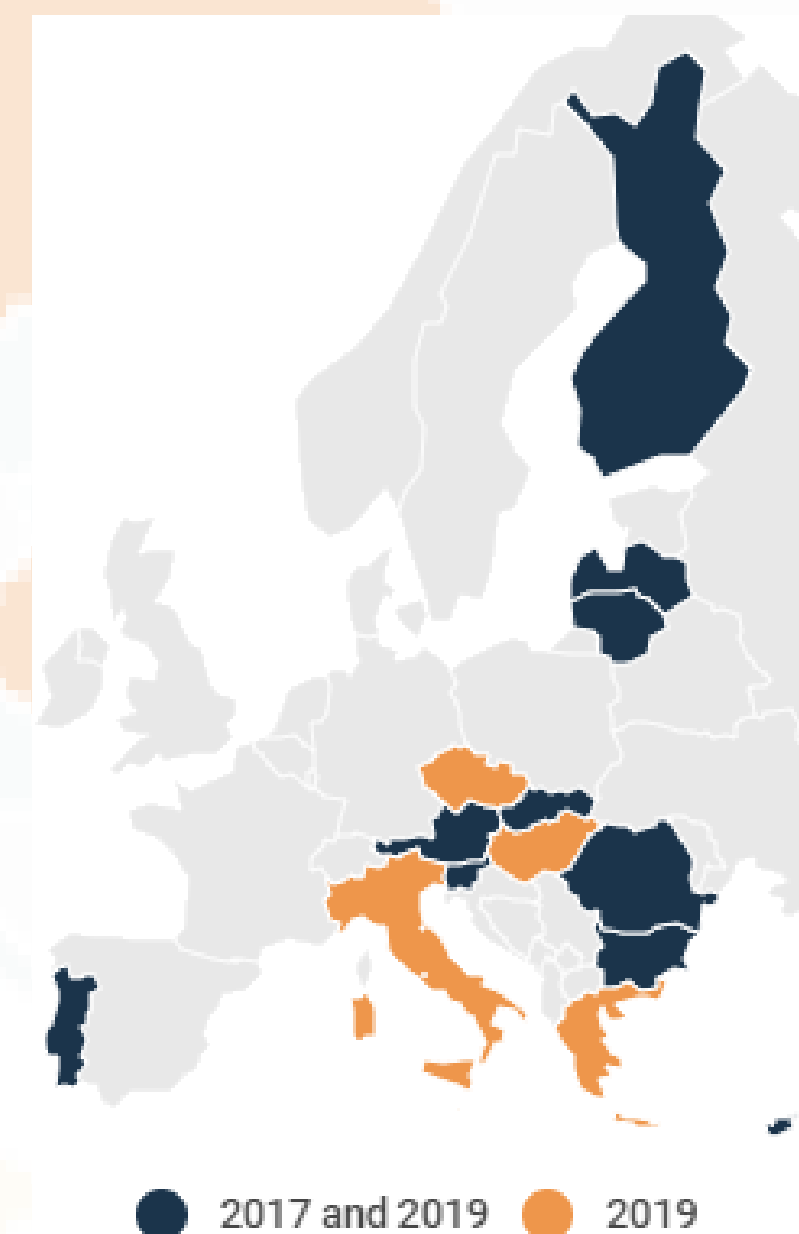
* This coverage excludes the recommendation on continuing and completing reforms in line with the post-programme commitments given at the Eurogroup of 22 June 2018.

 Policies covered in the 2019 CSRs

HEALTHCARE IN CSR IN 2017 AND 2019

Challenges from EU Member States with CSRs related to healthcare

- Challenges related to cost-effectiveness and sustainability of health systems;
 - Challenges in ensuring adequate and equitable access to necessary healthcare for their whole population;
 - Challenges related to health care costs and informal payments;
-
- **2017**: CSRs in Healthcare for **10** EU MS: Austria, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia
 - **2019**: CSRs in Healthcare for **15** EU MS: Austria, Bulgaria, Cyprus, **Czech Republic**, Finland, **Greece**, **Hungary**, **Italy**, Latvia, Lithuania, **Malta**, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia



SOCIAL DIALOGUE / PARTNERS IN CSR IN 2019

- Improving the regulatory environment
- Improving the functioning of social dialogue
- Improving the quality and transparency of the decision-making process through effective social dialogue
- Improve the consultation with the social partners

CSRs on Social Dialogue /Partners for **5** EU MS: Greece, Hungary, Croatia, Poland and Romania

