Bridging the gaps or falling short? 
The EPSR and what it can bring to EU-level policy-making 

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Overview

- Explaining the EPSR
  - Content
  - Form
- The impact
- How/who can enforce the EPSR?
## Explaining the EPSR: the content

<table>
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<th>Equal opportunities and access to the LM</th>
<th>Fair working conditions</th>
<th>Social protection and inclusion</th>
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<td>Education, training and LLR</td>
<td>Secure and adaptable employment</td>
<td>Childcare and support to children</td>
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<td>Gender equality</td>
<td>Wages</td>
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<td>Equal opportunities</td>
<td>Information about Employment conditions and dismissal protection</td>
<td>Unemployment benefits</td>
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<td>Active support to employment</td>
<td>Social dialogue and involvement of workers</td>
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<td>Healthy, safe and well-adapted work environment and data protection</td>
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<td>Inclusion of people with disabilities</td>
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<td>Long-term care</td>
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<td>Housing and assistance for the homeless</td>
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<td>Access to essential services</td>
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Explaining the EPSR: the content

20 rights/principles

«[2b] Women and men have the right to equal pay for work of equal value»

«[6a] Workers have the right to fair wages that provide for a decent standard of living»
Explaining the EPSR: the form

- **“Pillar package”** *(recommendation; draft proclamation; scoreboard; legislative proposals; soft-law measures)*

- **Recommendation:**
  - Not binding *(288 TFEU)*
  - Article 292 TFEU as basis
  - An instrument of indirect action aiming at preparation of legislation in member states

- **Proclamation:**
  - The EU Charter of Fundamental Rights *(7th Dec 2000)*
  - *Pillar (Gothenburg, 17 Nov 2017)*
  - Expresses primarily inter-institutional commitment
  - Not binding

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The impact of the EPSR

The EPSR and making of EU social policy and labour law:
- Primary law (impact on Charter?)
- Secondary law (Social Action programme???)
- Soft law (European Semester?, [...])

The impact beyond social dimension?
- Institutional discretion
- Reference point (benchmark for social standards to be ensured)
Enforcement of the EPSR?

**WHO?**
- European Institutions (Commission, European Parliament, Council)
- Member States
- Social partners (?)
- NGOs
- Individuals?

**HOW?**
- Via legislative measures
- Via non-legislative avenues/measures
- Via courts (?)
- Via collective bargaining (?)
- Via advocacy
Thank for your attention!

- Further reading:

Z. Rasnača «Bridging the gaps or falling short? The European Pillar of Social Rights and what it can bring to the EU-level policymaking», 2017