

# THE FUTURE OF WORK FOR A SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

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# The 2030 Agenda for sustainable development

## Agenda 2030 and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

- 17 goals
- 169 targets
- 240+ indicators



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# SDGs: A Universal Agenda

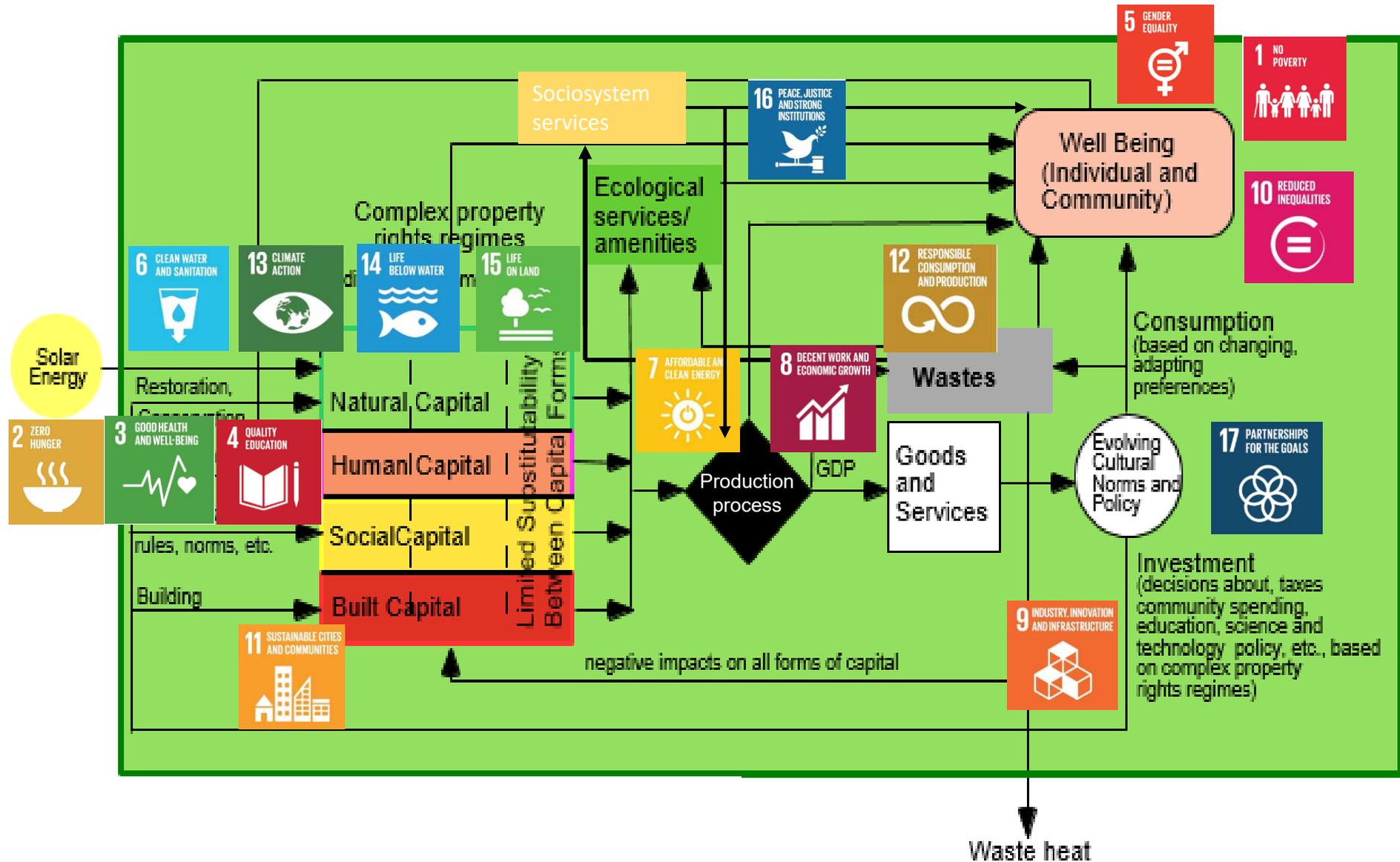
Finally a fully integrated vision of sustainable development, based on four pillars:

- Economy
- Society
- Environment
- Institutions

Three principles:

- Integration
- Universality
- Partecipation

# A new development paradigm



# People are scared

Automation

Climate change



Globalisation

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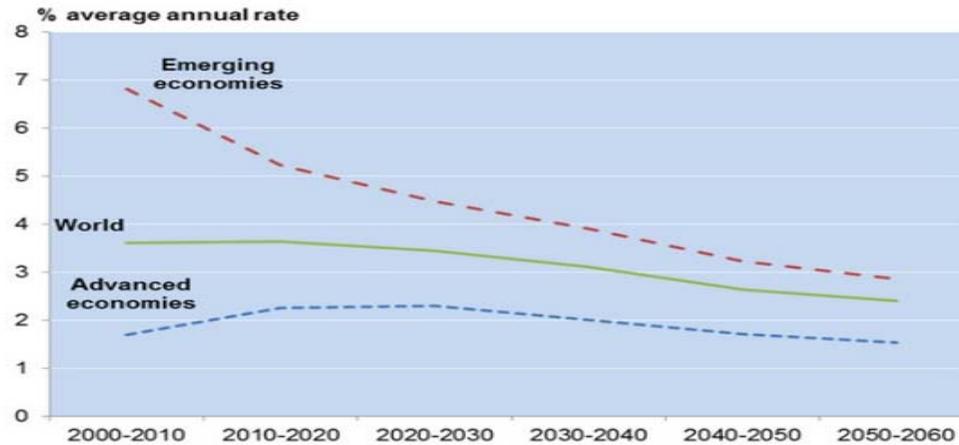


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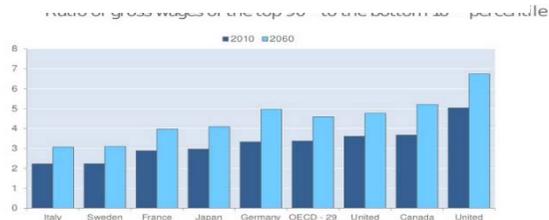


# The future we do not want

## Secular stagnation

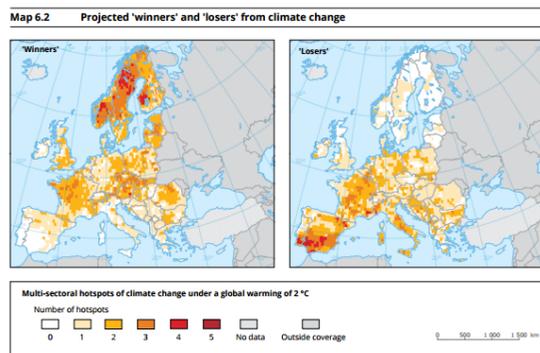


## Growing inequalities

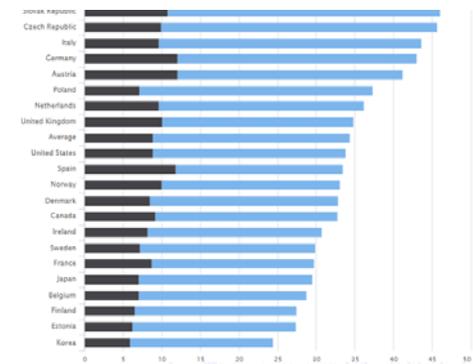


Rising wages for high-skilled workers  
Incomes of low-skilled in advanced economies fall behind

## Climate change



## Technological shocks



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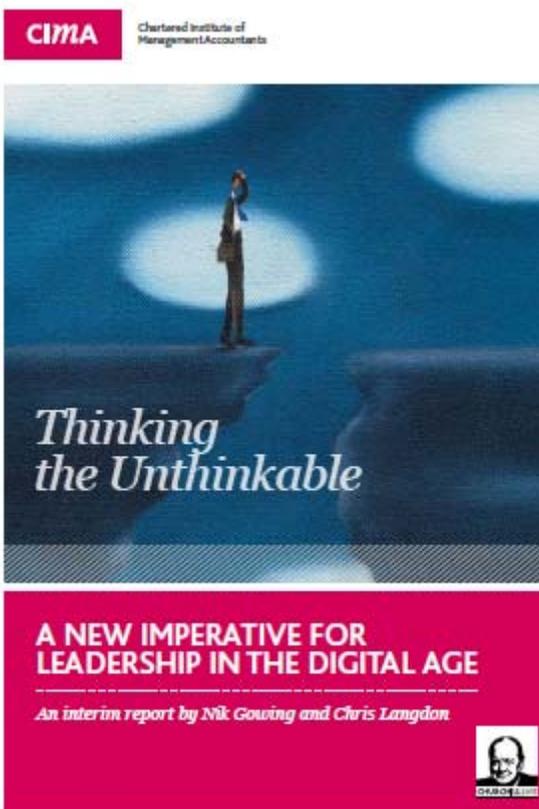


# The ESPAS 2016 Conference: key messages

“Non-linearities  
become

“Imag

“Thir



“Economic shocks are  
normal”

“Unthinkable”

“Unthinkable”

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# The role(s) of the EU

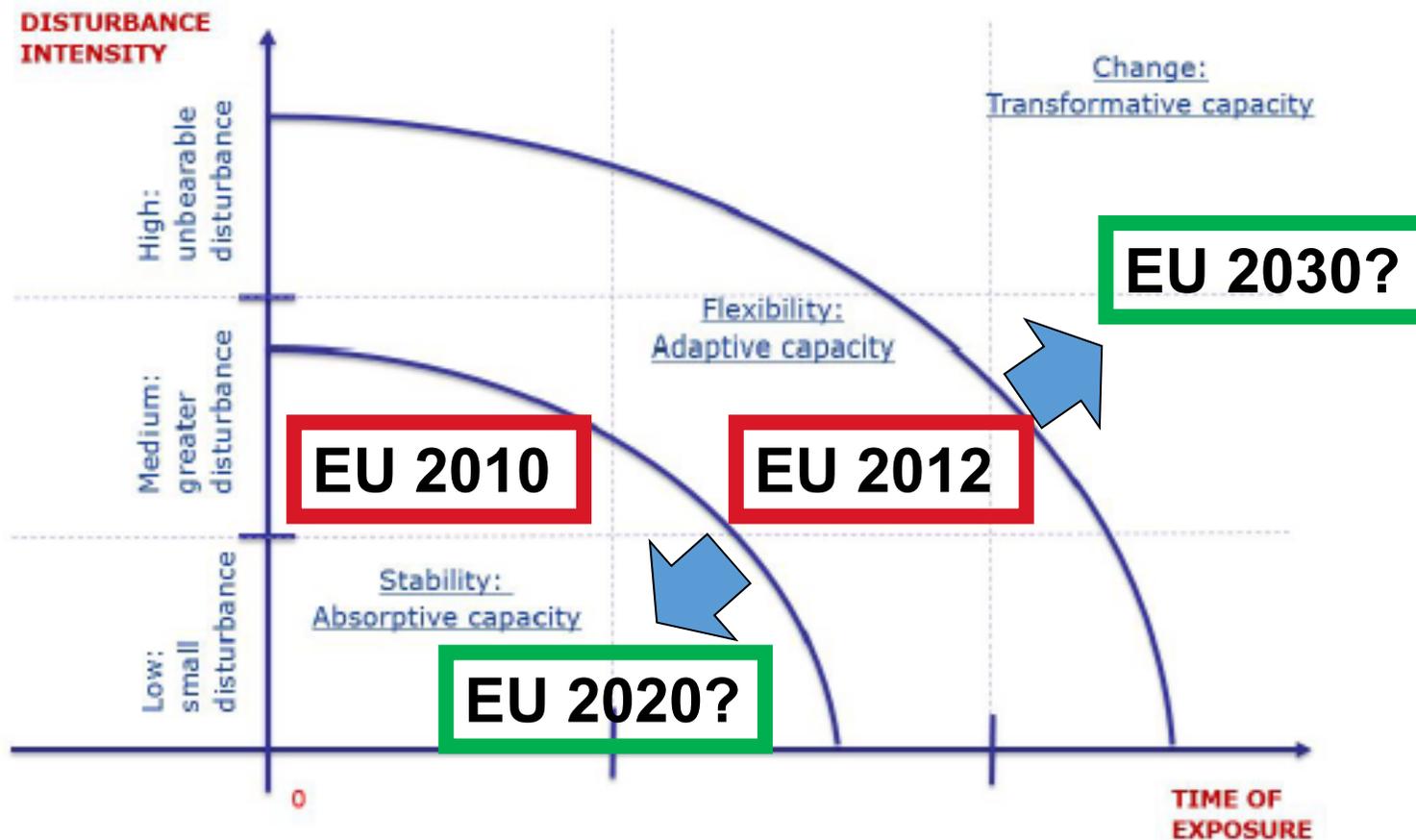
1. Help countries to develop a common vision for the future
2. Develop “policy packages” to cope with a world full of shocks
3. Design policies to achieve a higher equitable and sustainable wellbeing
4. Improve policy coherence
5. Develop common analytical tools to be used by countries in planning their own integrated economic, social and environmental policies

# Art. 3 of the EU Treaty

1. The Union's aim is to promote **peace**, its **values** and the **well-being** of its peoples.
2. The Union shall offer its citizens an area of **freedom, security and justice** without internal frontiers, in which the free movement of persons is ensured in conjunction with appropriate measures with respect to external border controls, asylum, immigration and the prevention and combating of crime.
3. The Union shall establish an internal market. It shall work for the **sustainable development** of Europe based on balanced economic growth and price stability, a highly competitive social market economy, aiming at **full employment and social progress**, and a **high level of protection and improvement of the quality of the environment**. It shall promote **scientific and technological advance**. It shall combat **social exclusion and discrimination**, and shall promote **social justice and protection, equality** between women and men, **solidarity** between generations and protection of the rights of the child. It shall promote economic, social and territorial **cohesion**, and **solidarity** among Member States. It shall respect its rich **cultural and linguistic diversity**, and shall ensure that Europe's cultural heritage is safeguarded and enhanced“.

# How to build a new political narrative

Figure 2: Shocks and capacities



# How to build a new political narrative

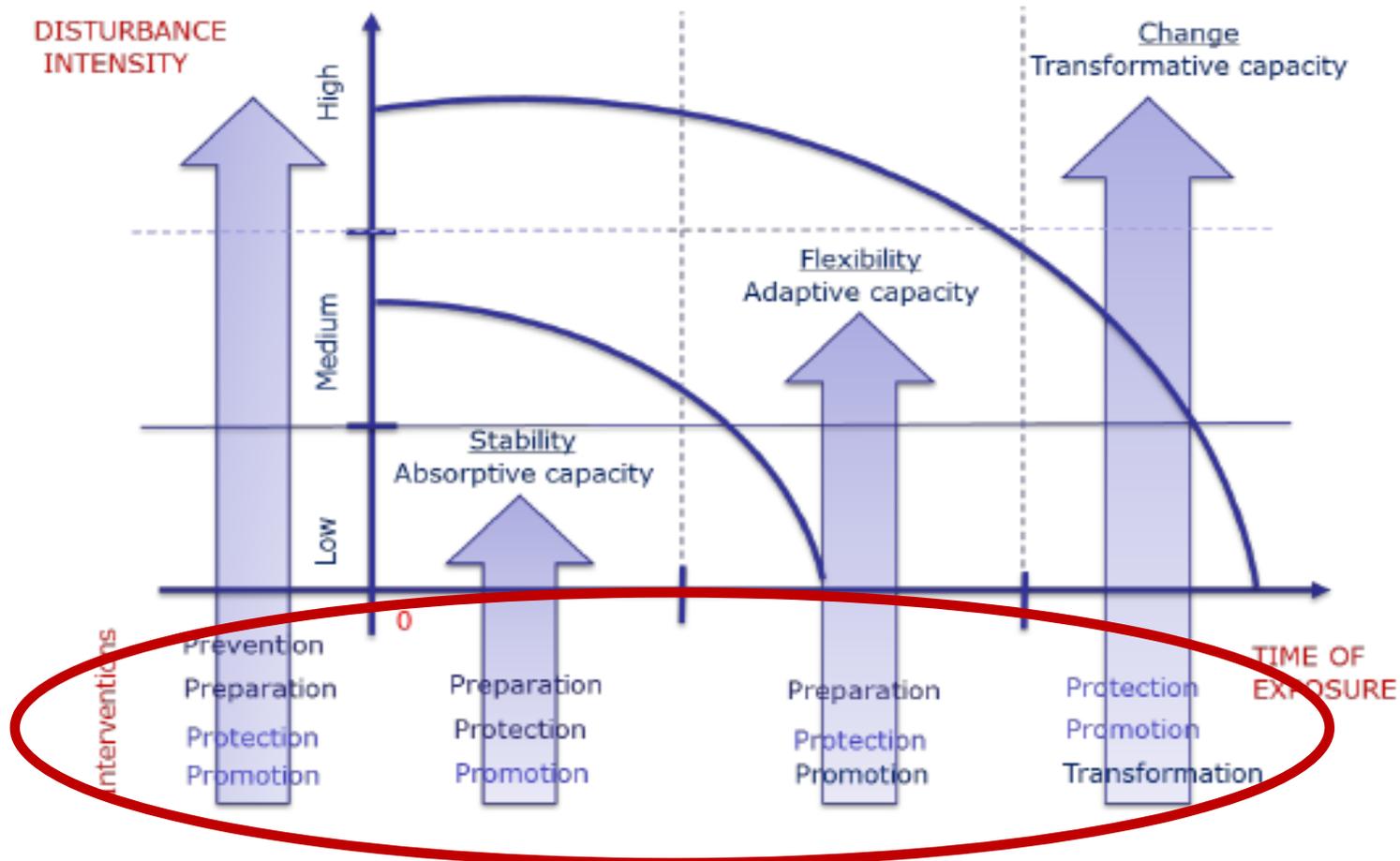
The EU is not on a sustainable path.

Economic growth alone will not solve our problems.

**A new vision is needed, based on resilience and sustainable wellbeing:** a resilient society aims to sustain its level of individual and societal wellbeing in an intergenerationally fair distribution, i.e. ensuring current wellbeing without compromising that of future generations.

# How to build a new political narrative

Figure 4: Link between capacities and interventions



# From a conceptual “system view” to a policy framework

- **Prevention measures** aim at reducing the incidence and size of shocks and, in the best case, to avert them.
- **Preparation measures** aim at putting in place arrangements that would reinforce the necessary resilience capacities in case a disturbance materializes.
- **Protection measures** are required to mitigate their impact, and to provide relief from potential deprivation or a loss of the standard of living.
- **Promotion measures** serve to invoke the adaptive capacity (flexibility) necessary to cope with longer and/or more severe disturbances.
- **Transformation measures** facilitate this process, to avoid unnecessarily abrupt changes.

# Resilience to face future shocks and achieve sustainable development

- We are interested in a «transformative resilience» that takes the system onto a new «steady state»: **from «bouncing back» to «bouncing forward»**
- **From Bauman's «Retrotopia» to an «Equitable and sustainable wellbeing utopia»:**
  - Invest in «resilient and sustainable assets»;
  - Invest in «resilient and sustainable businesses»;
  - Invest in «resilient and sustainable people and societies»;
  - Invest in a «resilient and sustainable system»

# The “social pillar” and the SDGs

- Education, training and long-life learning
- Gender balance and equal opportunities
- Active labour policies, decent work, working conditions, Social dialogue and engagement of workers
- Work-life balance, safe working environment and data protection
- Childcare and support to youth
- Social protection and unemployment benefits
- Minimum income
- Income and pensions
- Health, inclusion of disabled people, long-term care
- Housing for homelesses
- Access to basic services



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# Break the silos

- **Protection measures:**
  - Minimum income with measures to foster people's resilience
- **Transformation measures:**
  - Energy transition
  - Digicircular economy
  - Educational system
  - Fiscal system
- **Preparation and prevention measures:**
  - Health system
  - Urban policies
  - Environmental protection and climate change adaptation
- **Promotion measures:**
  - Gender equality
  - Sustainable companies
  - Active labour policies

# From “structural reforms” to “systemic transformative policies”

- New narrative for the European Semester
- New narrative for EFSI II
- New narrative for MFF
- New narrative for cohesion policy
- New narrative for «Social Europe»
- ...

## Conclusion

«Although many Democrats have come to associate emotional appeals with demagoguery, emotional compelling appeals need not be appeals to people's fears and prejudices.

They can just as easily be appeals to their hopes and dreams, their sense of shared fate or purpose, their better angels, or their sense that there might be someone who genuinely cares about their welfare and has what it takes to help restore it».

*Drew Westen, «The Political Brain»*