



Brussels, 04 March 2021

Press Release – “The European Pillar of Social Rights Action Plan”

The European Commission published its Action Plan to implement the European Pillar of Social Rights (EPSR), alongside the proposal for a Directive on strengthening the principle of equal pay for equal work of equal value between men and women through pay transparency.

ECEG has submitted its feedback to both Social Partners’ Consultations and issued a [statement on the proposed Directive to strengthen the principle of equal pay through pay transparency](#).

The association welcomes the **Effective Active Support to Employment – EASE initiative**, as well as the Commission’s invitation to develop coherent policy packages with the active involvement of Social Partners *“to address the labour market challenges triggered by the pandemic, bridge the skill shortages that are likely to hold up economic growth during the recovery, and help every individual to successfully navigate the green and digital transitions”*.

The association is already very active in implementing the second component of the “policy packages”, namely up-skilling and re-skilling in the chemical sector, with a special focus on young people and ageing workforce.

Emma Argutyan, Director General of ECEG says: *“As a recognized social partner, the ECEG looks forward to being closely involved in the design and implementation of the policies on the European level within the remits of our representation, expertise and knowledge”*.

The action plan also raises the issue of how upskilling and re-skilling can help the recovery from the crisis. **Anni Siltanen**, the vice-chair of the ECEG’s Working Group on Education & LLL says: *“Re-skill and up-skill as one of the seven European flagship initiatives has been in the centre of our attention since the publication of the Skills Agenda on 1st July 2020. ECEG currently collects sector-specific data to expand it with other stakeholders on the EU level”*.

For more information, please contact:

Emma Argutyan, Director General

e.argutyan@eceg.org.

About ECEG

ECEG, the European Chemical Employers Group, founded in 2002, is a recognised European Sectoral Social Partner, representing the chemicals, pharmaceuticals, rubber and plastics industries in Europe. Our sector provides approximately 3.3 million direct jobs in more than 94.000 enterprises.