



Strasbourg, 4 May 2022

Press Release

“The Social Economy, the Future of Europe”: Two Days of Meetings and Discussions in Strasbourg Between Stakeholders, Networks and Institutions

An event dedicated to Europe’s social economy sector will be held on **5 and 6 May 2022** at the *Palais de la Musique et des Congrès* in **Strasbourg**.

The event, which is co-hosted by the City and Eurometropolis of Strasbourg, France’s Ministry for the Economy, Finance and the Recovery, the European Commission, the European Economic and Social Committee, the European Parliament, the European Committee of the Regions, France’s Grand Est region and the European Collectivity of Alsace, in collaboration with major social economy networks and think tanks in France and Europe,¹ is being organised as part of the French Presidency of the Council of the European Union.

The two-day event will include discussions between decision-makers and stakeholders on what role the social economy should play in the future of the European Union, in the green, social, democratic and digital transitions, and in the transformations to Europe’s industrial sector. The issue of funding for the sector will also be discussed, and there will be an illustrated presentation of the European Commission’s Social Economy Action Plan. A detailed programme for the event is available at economiesociale-futur.eu.

Open to social economy stakeholders, entrepreneurs and the general public, the event will feature workshops and interactive sessions presented by networks and stakeholders from the sector, including an overview of the resources that exist across Europe to support the development of social economy initiatives, such as major European programmes and funds. Organised into streams by topic, the programme will allow participants to learn about innovative solutions developed by social economy stakeholders in response to the social and environmental challenges of today and tomorrow.

Invited speakers will include **Jeanne Barseghian**, Mayor of Strasbourg, **Pia Imbs**, President of the Eurometropolis of Strasbourg, **Pierre Roth**, Deputy City Councillor and Vice-President in charge of

¹ Social Economy Europe, *ESS France*, *CRESS Grand Est*, *ESS Strasbourg Eurométropole*, the REVES network, RTES, *le Labo de l’ESS*, *ESS Forum international*, the Social Good Accelerator.

supporting the emergence and growth of the social and solidarity economy in Strasbourg, **Nicolas Schmit**, European Commissioner for Jobs and Social Rights, **Othmar Karas**, First Vice-President of the European Parliament, **Christa Schweng**, President of the European Economic and Social Committee, **Apostolos Tzitzikostas**, President of the European Committee of the Regions, **Christian Debève**, President of the Commission for International, European and Cross-border Affairs of the Grand-Est Region, **Frédéric Bierry**, President of the European Collectivity of Alsace, and representatives from France's Ministry for the Economy, Finance and the Recovery.

The event is free but registration is mandatory: economiesociale-futur.eu.

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