

# Youth Employment - A Call For Change

Conference 13 – 14 December 2011  
OECD Conference Centre, Paris

## Programme

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### Tuesday 13 December

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8:30-9:00            **REGISTRATION**

9:00-9:30            **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION**

Richard Boucher, Deputy Secretary-General, OECD  
Peter Matjašič, President, European Youth Forum

9:30-11:00          Plenary session

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#### **THE ECONOMIC CRISIS AND ITS IMPACT ON THE FUTURE OF YOUNG PEOPLE**

This session will look into both the financial and social costs of the high levels of youth unemployment and how this has affected the lives of young people. These costs can be measured not only in economic terms, but are also reflected in the new life patterns of young people. This session will ask questions about the future and how to achieve inclusive and job-rich growth in our societies while returning autonomy to young people in their life choices.

**Moderator:** Simon Kuper, Journalist, Financial Times

#### Economic Impact

Calculations of economic losses caused by youth unemployment & its impact on society at large; skills loss, sustainability of social security systems

John Evans, General Secretary, Trade Union Advisory Committee to the OECD  
Juan Menéndez-Valdés, Director, European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions  
Stefano Scarpetta, Deputy Director, Employment, Labour and Social Affairs, OECD

#### **Debate**

#### Social Impact

The decent work agenda; access to social protection; youth perspectives

Susanne Hoffmann, Regional Director, Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia, International Labour Organization,  
Siyka Kovacheva, Professor of Sociology, University of Plovdiv, Bulgaria  
Romina Matei, President, Youth Express Network, Romania

#### **Debate**

11:00-11:30          Break

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11:30-13:00

### **DIFFERENT APPROACHES, ONE CRISIS: YOUTH VOICING THEIR CONCERNS**

This session will be in a roundtable format. Thematically, the session will focus on the origins of social unrest in relation to youth unemployment in Europe and will debate with new and emerging civil society organisations the consequences of the financial crisis and the different approaches they have taken.

**Moderator:** Shiv Malik, Journalist The Guardian and Author, *Jilted Generation: How Britain Has Bankrupted Its Youth*

Kyriakos Chatzistefanou, Journalist, BBC; Author and Director of the documentary *Debtocracy* (Greece)  
Hela Khamarou, Génération Précaire, France  
Vesna Milošević, Employment Spokesperson, Slovenian National Youth  
Luca Scarpiello, Vice-President European Youth Forum  
Carlos Susías Rodado, President, European Anti-Poverty Network-España  
Andrés Villena Oliver, Leader, 15-M Movement, Spain

**Questions from participants in the audience**

13:00-14:30

### **LUNCH**

13:00-14:00

### **EUROPEAN YOUTH FORUM - PUBLICATION LAUNCH: *YOUTH EMPLOYMENT IN EUROPE – A CALL FOR CHANGE***

Auditorium  
Peter Matjašič, President, European Youth Forum

14:30-16:30

Panel discussion

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### **FUTURE SITUATION YOUTH LABOUR MARKET: TO REGULATE OR NOT TO REGULATE?**

There are different proposals regarding what should be the responses to the high levels of youth unemployment; stricter regulation of the labour market but also calls for more flexibility, less regulation, and special contractual arrangements for young people as new labour market comers, such as single, open-ended contracts.

**Introduction and Moderation:** Paul Gregg, Professor of Economic and Social Policy, University of Bath, United Kingdom

Representative, Office of Michelle Bachelet, Chairperson of the Social Protection Floor Advisory Group & Executive Director, UN Women (to be confirmed)  
Sharan Burrow, General Secretary, International Trade Union Confederation  
Annemarie Muntz, Director, European Confederation of Private Employment Agencies  
Malin Sahlén, Economist and Author, *Priority Rules and Youth Unemployment*, Confederation of Swedish Enterprise  
Nicolas Schmit, Minister for Labour and Employment, Luxembourg

16:30-16:45

Break

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16:45-18:15

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### **SKILLS MISMATCH**

This interactive session involves a case study in a workshop setting and will gather feedback about theories, assumptions and policies on skills mismatch. This session will involve the youth participants of the conference and invite them to apply their personal experience and perceptions of the transition from education to the labour market and the importance of suitable skills.

**Introduction:** Andreas Schleicher, Special Advisor on Education Policy to the Secretary-General, Head of Division, OECD

Participation from Malin Sahlén, Economist and Author, *Priority Rules and Youth Unemployment*, Confederation of Swedish Enterprise

**Facilitation:** European Youth Forum facilitators and experts

OECD experts: Francesca Borgonovi, Analyst, Quality and equity in learning outcomes at school, Directorate for Education, OECD; Kathrin Hoeckel, Analyst, Adult competencies and the social and economic outcomes of education, Directorate for Education, OECD

18:30-20:30

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### **RECEPTION**

Café Espresso

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## Wednesday 14 December

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09:45-11:00

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### **INTERVIEW**

A video look at the lives of 3 young people who have done internships, to find out their experiences and what they think about the internship system in general.

### **PRESENTATION OF EUROPEAN QUALITY CHARTER ON INTERNSHIPS AND APPRENTICESHIPS**

Internships and apprenticeships make up an increasingly important segment of the youth labour market. During this session there will be an opportunity to present and hand over a proposal for quality standards for these work placements to policy makers.

**Introduction and Moderation:** Giuseppe Porcaro, Secretary-General, European Youth Forum

**Presentation** of European Quality Charter on Internships and Apprenticeships: Thiébaud Weber, Board Member, Youth, European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC)

#### **Panel discussion :**

Ben Lyons, Intern Aware, United Kingdom  
Anna Schopf, Platform Generation Praktikum, Austria  
Eleonora Voltolina, Repubblica degli Stagisti, Italy

#### **Questions from participants in the audience**

11:00-12:45

Panel discussion

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### **FUTURE PROSPECTS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE LABOUR MARKET**

**Introduction and keynote speech:** Angel Gurría, Secretary-General, OECD

**Moderator:** Emilie Turunen, Member, European Parliament (Socialist People's Party, Denmark, Greens/European Free Alliance)

Inés Bultó, Secretary-General, European Confederation of Junior Enterprises  
Jean-Louis De Brouwer, Director for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, European Commission

Paul Giovanni, Deputy of Cooperation, Hispanic-American Youth Organization (Organización Iberoamericana de la Juventud, OIJ)

Patrick Itschert, Deputy General Secretary, European Trade Union Confederation

Video message from László Andor, European Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, European Commission

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12:45-13:00

Conclusions

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## CONCLUSIONS

Anthony Gooch, Director, Public Affairs and Communications, OECD  
Luca Scarpiello, Vice-President, European Youth Forum

## LAUNCH OECD YOUTH VIDEO COMPETITION 2012

Desiree Quinteros, OECD

13:00-15:00

**LUNCH**

15:00-16:00

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**CONCLUDING SESSION FOR YOUTH ORGANISATIONS: THEMATIC WORKSHOPS**