



European Parliament Hearing on Promoting social inclusion and combating poverty

6 May 2008

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What is BUSINESSEUROPE?

- The Confederation of European business, representing more than 20 million small, medium and large companies
- European Social Partner representing employers



EC Consultation on Active Inclusion

Main Points

- Supportive of EC holistic approach and development of common principles
- Member state prerogatives
- Provide pathways to employment for those who can work and a life in dignity for those who cannot
- Mobilise the full potential of the labour market
- Active inclusion important part of flexicurity
- Coordination with Lisbon Strategy



EC consultation on Active Inclusion

Deepening the Open Method of Coordination through the adoption of common principles on active inclusion

- Most suitable method for action
- Setting common EU objectives, giving due consideration to member state prerogatives
- Positively support member states in reform efforts
- Broad principles, not prescriptive or bureaucratic
- Recommendation most suitable method



Content of Common Principles

Sufficient income

- Role in ensuring a life in dignity for those who are not capable of working
- Right for those capable of working subject to active availability for work or training
- Incentives for people to move from social benefits to work

Inclusive labour markets

- Tool to fight against social exclusion
- Increase employment and efficiently functioning economy to support social provisions
- Working-age population decline – strain on public finances
- Demand and supply measures

Access to quality services

- Direct support for integration into the workforce
- Indirectly complementing process
- Cost-effectiveness and efficiency through modernisation

