Programme

sef: Policy Lunch
Governing the Future of Work.
The ILO Report’s Implications for the EU

Brussels
Representation of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia to the EU
Rue Montoyer 47, Brussels

26 February 2019, 12.00-13.50 hrs

Conference language: English

Supported by

Minister for Federal, European and International Affairs of the State of North Rhine-Westphalia
BACKGROUND

The ILO Global Commission on the Future of Work published its final report on 22 January 2019, marking the kick-off of the ILO100 celebrations. The report is intended to outline steps needed for “decent and sustainable work opportunities for all”, taking into account the rapidly changing nature of work. While presenting trends and solutions for a broad range of issues from skills mismatch to informality and digitalisation, the report also discusses elements of future regional and global governance.

Besides the opportunities opened up by new forms of working, questions of social justice and social protection are at the core of this debate. The changing nature of work and in particular emerging new forms of “employment” (such as the gig economy) and of organising the regular workforce will make the implementation of international labour standards and social protection schemes for workers more challenging in the future. As one of its initiatives to deal with these challenges, the European Commission adopted a Social Fairness Package in March 2018, proposing the establishment of a European Labour Authority as well as measures to improve access to social protection.

Based on the ILO report, we would like to discuss the following questions:

- What answers does the ILO report offer to the challenges outlined above? What is their potential from a European perspective?

- Do we need new policy or legal frameworks to govern work in the future at the regional and/or global level? Do we need new modes of governance, e.g. by including new actors?

- What are the implications for the EU’s internal policies (social/labour/industrial, etc.) and its role as a global actor?
12.00 HRS  REGISTRATION AND LIGHT LUNCH

12.30 HRS  WELCOME

Dr Gerd Harms
Deputy Chairperson of the Executive Committee
Development and Peace Foundation (sef), Bonn

12.35 HRS  INPUT

Thorben Albrecht
Member of the ILO Global Commission on the Future of Work
Former Permanent State Secretary at the Federal Ministry of
Labour and Social Affairs, Berlin

12.45 HRS  ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

Thorben Albrecht

Dr Hildegard Hagemann
German Commission Justitia et Pax, Berlin

Ruth Paserman
Deputy Head of Cabinet
Cabinet of the Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs,
Skills and Labour Mobility
European Commission, Brussels

Chair
Claire Dhéret
Head of Social Europe & Well-being programme
Senior Policy Analyst, European Policy Centre, Brussels

Followed by discussion with the audience

13.50 HRS  END OF EVENT