

Analysis of the new European Commission

Changes from previous Commission:

- 3 executive Vice-Presidents, they will have a double function, coordinating and being a Commissioner at the same time (with their own portfolio and a Directorate General to support them in their work).
- 5 Vice-Presidents. Commissioner-designate Margaritis Schinas (Greece) is of great interest. His portfolio is “Protecting our European way of life”. However, since Tuesday, several contestations have been raised from MEPs and civil society on this portfolio (the name of the portfolio and its lack of definition). Schinas will be responsible for education, employment, migration and security.
- The former **DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion**, will be supporting the new Commissioner-designate for Jobs.

Commissioners relevant for the SBH community:

1. ***Stella Kyriakides***, from Cyprus, responsible for **Health**. Ms. Kyriakides is a former psychologist. Among her duties she will have to :
 - Ensure affordable medicines,
 - Implement the new regulatory framework on medical devices,
 - **Ensure high-quality healthcare and reduce inequalities.**
2. ***Helena Dalli***, from Malta responsible for **Equality**. Among her duties, she will have to :
 - Lead the fight against discrimination and propose new anti-discrimination legislation,
 - **Ensure the EU’s implementation of the UNCRPD,**
 - Ensure that the Work-Life Balance Directive is fully implemented,
 - Develop a new European Gender Strategy.
3. ***Dubravka Šuica***, from Croatia responsible for **Democracy and Demography**. She will be equivalent to a Commissioner for Families. Among her duties she will have to :
 - Support the different groups affected by the demographic transition,
 - She needs to present a « Green Paper » on ageing including care and pensions,
 - **Coordinate the work on better reconciling work and family and support people throughout their careers,**
 - Protect children’s rights and prepare a strategy on children’s rights.
4. ***Nicolas Schmit***, from Luxembourg and responsible for **Jobs**. His duties will be to :
 - Strengthen and improve EU’s social policies through the European Pillar of Social Rights and the European Semester,
 - Boost employment and improve labor mobility.

5. **Valdis Dombrovskis**, from Latvia. He is one of the Executive VPs and is responsible for **An Economy that works for people**, while implementing the European Pillar of Social Rights.
6. It will be interesting to follow how the portfolio of **Margaritis Schinas** will evolve and whether the European Parliament will approve it or not.

Positive inputs:

- Social affairs have been spread across different Commissioners. In the portfolios: **Demography, Jobs, Equality and Economics and Finance**. This might either lead to overlaps or boost for more social policies
- The implementation of the CRPD will be an important point of the new Commission (under the responsibility of the Commissioner-designate **Helena Dalli** for Equality).
- The implementation of the European Pillar of Social Rights will be the responsibility of Commissioners-designate **Nicolas Schmit** and **Valdis Dombrovskis**.
- There is a significant improvement in the gender balance, we have 13 women out of 28 as Commissioners.

Hearings and approval by the European Parliament

However, these Commissioners and their portfolios (area of responsibility) might change. In order to finalise their nominations, each of the Commissioners will have to be approved by the European Parliament (through hearings and a final election). The European Parliament will vote the European Commission, at the end of October (date to be confirmed).

Links

- Link to the [Press Conference](#), presentation of the new Commission press release
- Link to the [Press Release](#)
- European Commission, [Commissioners-designated portfolios](#)
- European Commission, [structure](#)

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International Federation for Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus
Consultative status special category Economic and Social Council at the United Nations