

EU 2020

On 27 April 2010 the European Commission published the integrated guidelines for the implementation of the *Europe 2020* strategy. These guidelines should replace the 24 guidelines adopted in 2005 and revised in 2008 within the *Lisbon Strategy for Growth and Jobs*, which should have served as the base for design of national reform programmes at the time, reflecting macro- and micro economic labour market reform.

Although these guidelines are aimed at EU member states, the *Europe 2020* strategy should be implemented in cooperation with all national, regional and local factors alongside with close cooperation with parliaments, social partners and representatives of civil society. They should participate in the design, implementation and promotion of national reform programmes.

The main priorities for the implementation of guidelines of the *Europe 2020* strategy are the following:

1. **smart growth** (development of the economy based on knowledge and innovation),
2. **sustainable growth** (promotion of more efficient and more competitive economy with the aim of improving business environment),
3. **inclusive growth** (promotion of high level employment with the aim of ensuring social and geographical cohesion).

The following **5 key goals** arise from the guidelines:

- **75%** - to raise an employment rate of the population aged between 20 and 64 from present 69% to at least 75%;
- **3%** - to achieve the goal of investing 3% of gross domestic product (GDP) in research and development, especially by improving conditions of investment in research and development by private sector; and to develop a new indicator for monitoring of innovations;
- **20/20/20** – to reduce greenhouse gases emissions by at least 20% compared to the 1990 levels or by 30 percent, if conditions allow it; to increase the share of renewable energy in our final energy consumption to 20%; and to increase the energy effectiveness by 20%;
- **10%** - to reduce the share of early school leavers to 10% from present 15% and to increase the share of the population aged between 30 and 34 who are highly educated from 31% to at least 40%;
- **25%** - to reduce the number of Europeans who live below the poverty threshold by 25%, thus getting 20 million people out of poverty.

The main initiatives for the implementation of guidelines of the *Europe 2020* strategy

- **Innovation** - "**The Union of Innovations**" with the aim of improving framework conditions and the access to finances for research and innovations in order to strengthen an innovation chain and to raise the level of investment across the European Union.
- **Education** – "**Youth on the Move**" with the aim of improving work results of educational systems and increasing international attractiveness of European higher education.
- **Digital society** – "**Digital Programme for Europe**" with the aim of broadening access to fast Internet and benefiting from digital single market for households and enterprises.

- **Climate, energy and professional mobility – “Resource-efficient Europe”** the aim of which is to assist in decoupling economic growth from resource use by decarbonisation of economy, increasing the use of renewable resources, modernization of transport sector and promotion of energy efficiency.
- **Competitiveness – “Industrial Policy for the Globalization Era”** with the aim of improving business environment, especially for small- and medium-sized enterprises as well as with the aim of providing support to the development of strong and sustainable industrial bases which can compete at the global level.
- **Employment and skills – “Programme for New Skills and Jobs”** – for the modernization of labour market by facilitating professional mobility and the development of skills during the lifespan of individuals, again with the aim of increasing labour market participation and better matching of labour force supply and demand.
- **Combating poverty – “European Platform against Poverty”** with the aim of ensuring social and geographical cohesion, thus making the benefits from growth and jobs widely spread and people who are poor and socially excluded would have an opportunity to have a decent life and actively participate in society.

The guidelines for economic policy of member states and the European Union are the following:

Guideline 1: Ensuring the quality and sustainability of public finances

Guideline 2: Addressing macroeconomic imbalances

Guideline 3: Reducing imbalances in the euro area

Guideline 4: Optimising support to research and development and innovation, strengthening the knowledge triangle and unleashing the potential of the digital economy

Guideline 5: Improving efficiency resource and reducing greenhouse gases emissions

Guideline: 6: Improving the business and consumer environment and modernising the industrial base

Guidelines for employment policy in member states

Guideline 7: Increasing labour market participation and reducing structural unemployment – **75% of the population aged between 20 and 64 should be employed until 2020.**

Guideline 8: Developing skilled labour force responding to labour market needs, promoting job quality and lifelong learning

Guideline 9: Improving the performance of education and training systems at all levels and increasing participation in tertiary education – **Until 2020 the rate of early school leaving should be under 10%; and at least 40% of young population aged between 30 and 34 should have a higher-education degree.**

Guideline 10: Promoting social inclusion and combating poverty – **to reduce the number of persons who are at risk of poverty by reducing their total number by over 20 million until 2020.**