



White Paper

An Agenda for Adequate, Safe and Sustainable Pensions

**EU White Paper on Pensions put to the Test -
How to achieve Adequate, Safe and Sustainable
Pensions?**

**Permanent Representation of Austria to the EU
Brussels, 24 April 2012**



Background

- ***Follow-up to the Green Paper***
Consultation on pensions July-Nov 2010
- ***Reflects the fact that pensions are becoming a***
common concern
Due to the economic & sovereign debt crisis (impact on short & long-term stability of public finances)
- ***Strong emphasis on pensions in Europe 2020***
Annual Growth Surveys (AGS) 2011 & 2012 and Country Specific Recommendations (CSRs) 2011



White Paper - Key objectives

- **EU to *add value* by supporting reforms in Member States while *respecting national competences***
European Semester with CSRs, Euro Plus Pact, soft policy coordination with SPC and EMPC, financial market & pension industry regulation
- **Annual Growth Survey states *what* needs to be done, White Paper *how* to do it**
given ageing, fiscal and socio-economical challenges
- **White Paper presents a *comprehensive vision* for the future of adequate pensions**
Stresses that adequate and sustainable pensions are possible even in a less favourable demographic context



White Paper: Main messages

- *Adequacy and sustainability can be achieved at the same time by improving the **balance between people in work and retirees***
 - Raising (effective) retirement ages
 - More labour force participation over the entire life cycle
- ***Safer and more cost-effective complementary retirement savings** can also make a contribution to better adequacy in the future*



White Paper – list of content

1. *Introduction*
2. ***The Current Pension Challenges***
 - 2.1. *Securing the financial **sustainability** of pension systems*
 - 2.2. *Maintaining the **adequacy** of pension benefits*
 - 2.3. *Raising labour market participation of **women & older workers***
 - 2.4. *The role for Member States and EU in pensions*
3. ***The need for Pension Reforms***
 - 3.1. ***Balancing*** *time spent in work and retirement*
 - 3.1.1. **Linking** retirement age to gains in life expectancy
 - 3.1.2. **Restricting** access to early retirement
 - 3.1.3. **Supporting** longer working lives
 - 3.1.4. **Closing** the pensions gap between men and women
 - 3.2. *Developing **complementary private** retirement savings*
4. ***Deployment of EU Instruments***
5. ***Conclusion***

Annex 1: List of EU Initiatives



White Paper: initiatives announced

Collection of 20 EU initiatives ordered according to key themes:

- **Balancing time spent in work and retirement**
- **Developing complementary private retirement savings**
- **Enhancing the EU's monitoring tools on pensions and strengthening synergies across policy areas**



White Paper: 20 EU Initiatives

Balancing work & retirement

- *Promote pension reforms leading to **later retirement** and pension take-up*
- *Underpin this by work place & labour market policies to **enable and encourage** people to work longer*

EY2012 on Active Ageing, Gender equality & Anti-discrimination, Health & Safety strategy, European Social dialogue, European Semester, SPC/EMCO/EPC, PROGRESS, ESF etc.



White Paper: 20 EU Initiatives (continued)

*Improve **coverage, safety & efficiency** of private retirement savings*

IORP review, portability directive, Art 8 Insolvency protection, third-pillar products, tax expenditure efficiency, good practise codes, tracking service, annual statement, financial education etc.

*Strengthening **EU monitoring and coordination***

Ageing Report, Sustainability Report, Pension Adequacy Report



Thank you for your attention!

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http://ec.europa.eu/economy_finance/index_en.htm

http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/internal_market/index_en.htm