

**Communication from the Commission to the  
European Parliament, the Council, the  
European Economic and Social Committee  
and the Committee of Regions**

**“A Shared Commitment for Employment”**

**COM (2009) 257**

## Communication

### “A Shared Commitment for Employment” (COM (2009) 257)

#### Main Events

- Adopted by the Commission on 3/6/2009
- Transmitted to the Council and the European Parliament on 5/6/2009
- Discussed in EPSCO Council of Ministers meeting on 8/6/2009 as part of the policy debate

## Communication

### “A Shared Commitment for Employment” (COM (2009) 257)

#### Background

- Communication “Driving European Recovery” that outlined a number of elements to help Member States design and implement appropriate and effective employment policies
- Spring European Council and the Employment Workshops held in April 2009 that helped define the three key priorities contained in this Communication
- Employment Summit of 7 May 2009 that found common approach on the ten priority actions

## Communication

### “A Shared Commitment for Employment” (COM (2009) 257)

#### Proposed Aim

- To strengthen cooperation between the EU and its Member States, as well as between the EU and social partners, on the three key priorities, focusing on concrete actions, and supported by all available Community instruments, particularly the European Social Fund and the Globalization Adjustment Fund
- To contribute to Europe’s role in shaping the global effort of the international community towards recovery and sustainable growth

## Communication

“A Shared Commitment for Employment” (COM (2009) 257)

### How can this be achieved?

Through the development and implementation of the right policies and actions, to preserve sustainable jobs in sound economic activities and help people into productive employment, to support the most vulnerable and to prepare for the jobs and skills of the future.

## Communication

“A Shared Commitment for Employment” (COM (2009) 257)

### 3 Key Priorities:

- a) Maintaining employment, creating jobs, and promoting mobility;
- b) Upgrading skills and matching labour market needs;
- c) Increasing access to employment.

## Communication

“A Shared Commitment for Employment” (COM (2009) 257)

### Proposed Priority Actions/1:

- Keep people in employment;
- Give young people opportunities;
- Immediately help the unemployed;
- Tackle long-term unemployment;
- Make workers' mobility easier;

## Communication

“A Shared Commitment for Employment” (COM (2009) 257)

### Proposed Priority Actions/2:

- Upgrade skills at all levels;
- Identify tomorrow’s jobs for recovery;
- Encourage entrepreneurship and job creation;
- Better anticipate and manage restructuring;
- Help small businesses maintain and develop skills.

## Communication

### “A Shared Commitment for Employment” (COM (2009) 257)

Making better use of Community Funds and mobilizing all available funds in response to the crisis to help Member States, with the participation of social partners, put in place rapid reaction packages, that focus on:

- Helping workers and companies undergoing restructuring;
- Promoting entrepreneurship and self-employment;
- Matching skills and labour market needs;
- Ensuring wider employment opportunities for young people and most vulnerable groups;
- Enhancing public employment services.

## Communication

### “A Shared Commitment for Employment” (COM (2009) 257)

#### Accelerating the Funding to tackle the Crisis

To help Member States in undertaking rapid recovery measures, the Commission is proposing:

- (a) Amending the Structural Funds Regulation to give Member States the option of not providing national co-funding during 2009 and 2010, i.e. a 100% reimbursement rate from the EU;
- (b) A new EU microfinance facility for employment to develop micro-enterprise and the social economy.

## Communication

### “A Shared Commitment for Employment” (COM (2009) 257)

#### Preparing for the Future

The Commission will present proposals for post-2010 growth and jobs strategy, including the Employment Strategy by end 2009, taking into account the ongoing discussion among EU institutions and all stakeholders including:

- A simpler European Employment Strategy;
- Strengthening of national ownership and more focused use of Structural Funds in particular the European Social Fund;
- Coordination between Commission, Member States and social partners to facilitate cross-country comparison.

## Communication

“A Shared Commitment for Employment” (COM (2009) 257)

### Malta's Position/1

Malta's initial response is that we welcome this Communication because we agree that urgent action is needed level to address the difficulties being encountered in the employment sector as a result of the financial and economic crisis.

## Communication

“A Shared Commitment for Employment” (COM (2009) 257)

### Malta's Position/2

Malta therefore acknowledges the call made in the Communication for accelerated and joint action in view of the continued deterioration in the employment situation across much of Europe and the need for Member States to take necessary measures to address this problem and improve for the better the situation in their labour market.

## Communication

“A Shared Commitment for Employment” (COM (2009) 257)

### Malta's Position/3

Malta recognises the importance of the three key priority areas identified by the Commission to help Member States design and implement appropriate and effective employment policies.

## Communication

### “A Shared Commitment for Employment” (COM (2009) 257)

#### Malta's Position/4

As regards the proposed priority actions, Malta is of the view that not all these actions take into sufficient consideration national realities particularly with regards to such issues as benchmarks and target setting.

Malta therefore believes that there should be more flexibility whilst also respecting national competence.

Communication  
“A Shared Commitment for Employment” (COM (2009) 257)

Thank You