



Plenary assembly “SPRING 2018” | Adoption of the mandate for the Commission on Social Affairs

1. Mission & Scope

The Commission has the mandate to **study** and **advise** COMECE in areas of **EU competence** related to **social and economic policies**, including EU actions to tackle (youth) unemployment, poverty and precarious working conditions as well as on competition, fiscal and monetary policies.

The Commission experts may also **assist with the preparation of statements, contributions and meetings** with regard to respective EU policy debates.

2. President

The President of the Commission is to be elected among the Bishop Delegates of COMECE. He should have the following profile:

- Ability to work in **English**
- Availability to **chair** the meetings of the Commission (2 meetings per year)
- Availability to **maintain contact** with the Secretariat of COMECE
- Capacity to **dialogue** with the EU mechanisms on matters related to the areas of social and economic affairs.

3. Experts & observers

Members should be **experts** in the fields of **social and economic affairs**, **mandated by their Bishops' Conference** for **five years**, whereas **each Bishops' Conference** appoints **one expert**.

A **permanent invitation** is issued to **Caritas Europa** to send one observer.

4. Practical elements

Working language: **English**

Number of meetings: **two meetings** per year, plus regular online consultations and regular updates on EU actions

Budget: **Accommodation** and **meals** costs are covered by **COMECE** (1 night maximum); **travel** costs and eventual individual interpretation costs are covered by the **respective Bishops' Conference**