



# The EU's Anti-Poverty Strategy: An evaluation and next steps

20 October 2025 | 9:00 am – 4:30 pm

Bocconi University | Leonardo Del Vecchio Building | Room N01 Piazza Sraffa 13

The **President Von der Leyen's** political guidelines for 2024-2027 announced the first-ever European Anti-poverty strategy to help people to get access to the essential protections and services they need, along with addressing the root causes of poverty.

The Strategy is expected to be presented in 2026. To prepare it, the **European Commission (DG EMPL)** and **Bocconi University** are organizing a joint event to gather expert contributions, focusing on topics such as minimum income, breaking the intergenerational transmission of poverty, and financing anti-poverty measures

The event will also contribute to the preparations of the **World Social Summit**, taking place in Doha on 4-6 November.

## MORNING SESSION

9:00 – 9:10 am

Welcome Remarks

**Catherine De Vries** President, IEP@BU

9:10 – 9:20 am

Video message

**Roxana Mînzatu** Executive Vice-President for Social Rights and Skills, Quality Jobs and Preparedness, European Commission

9:20 – 9:40 am

Keynote Speech – **The European Pillar of Social rights, a compass for EU social policies**

**Mario Nava** Director-General, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, European Commission

9:40 – 10:00 am

Video message

**Muhammad Yunus** Prime Minister of Bangladesh and Nobel laureate

**10:00 – 11:20 am**

**1<sup>st</sup>. Panel. Minimum Income: Active Inclusion Approach**

**Hannah Adzakpa** Caritas Germany and Caritas Europa

**Pietro Galeone** Institute for European Policymaking, Bocconi University

**Jiri Svarc** DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, European Commission

Contribution of experts by experience on accessing minimum income

**11:20 – 11:40 am**

**Coffee Break**

**11:40-11:50 am**

**Kickoff of Discussion - An EU Anti-Poverty Strategy along the whole life cycle**

**Francesco Billari** Rector, Bocconi University

**11:50 am – 1:20 pm**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Panel. Addressing the Root Causes of Poverty in the EU Across Generations: From Child Poverty and Old Age Poverty to Prosperity Pathways**

**Michela Carlana** LEAP-Laboratory for Effective Anti-poverty Policies, Bocconi University

**Katarina Ivanković Knežević** Director for Social Rights and Inclusion, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, European Commission

**Kahina Rabahi** Policy and Advocacy Coordinator, EAPN, European Anti-Poverty Network & PEP CILAP

Contribution of people experiencing poverty

**1:20 – 2:30 pm**

**Lunch**

**AFTERNOON SESSION**

**2:30 – 2:50 pm**

**Keynote Speech**

**Oriana Bandiera** Sir Anthony Atkinson Professor of Economics at the London School of Economics



**2:50 – 4:20 pm**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Panel - Poverty and Finance: Addressing Poverty As An Investment. Ensuring The Right Balance Of The Tax-Benefit Systems**

**Guido Alfani** Director, DONDENA Centre for Research on Social Dynamics and Public Policy, Bocconi University

**Anna Diamantopoulou** former Commissioner for Social Rights and Employment and Chair of the High-Level Group on the Future of Social Protection

**Martin Merlin** Director, Bank, Insurance and Financial Crime, DG for Financial Stability, Financial Services and Capital Markets Union, European Commission

**4:20 – 4:45 pm**

**Closing Remarks: Next Steps for academia and policy**

**Sylvie Goulard** Vice President, IEP@BU

**Katarina Ivanković Knežević** Director for Social Rights and Inclusion, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, European Commission



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