

PROGRESSIVE ECONOMY ANNUAL FORUM 2015 SUSTAINABLE GROWTH: THE CHALLENGES OF TRANSITION

European Parliament, Brussels - Wednesday, 3 June 2015
14.30 - 18.00: ROOM 4Q2

PROGRAMME

The forum will be moderated by **Jacki Davis**, Meade Davis Communications
Coffee and Tea will be served to participants in the room

14.30 - 14.45: Opening Remarks and Presentation of the Winners of the Call for Papers

- **Gianni Pittella MEP**, President of the S&D Group

Mr Gianni Pittella, President of the S&D Group, will deliver some introductory remarks and welcome the participants. He will also call on stage the winners of the Call for Papers 2015 addressed at researchers and academics on four research topics under the authority of the initiative's Scientific Board.

14.45 - 15.15: Keynote speech - Public debt, taxation and inequality in Europe

- **Professor Thomas Piketty**, Professor of Economics at the Paris School of Economics and at the School for Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences

Professor Thomas Piketty, author of numerous articles published in the most important economic journals of the world and of a dozen books, has done major historical and theoretical work on the interplay between economic development and the distribution of income and wealth. He is the initiator of the recent literature on the long run evolution of top income shares in national income and the author of "Capital in the 21st century".

15.15 - 16.15: Q&A with Thomas Piketty - Interaction with the audience

Opened by:

Maria João Rodrigues MEP, Vice-President of the S&D Group, and
Isabelle Thomas MEP, Vice-President of the S&D Group

16.15 - 18.00: How to drive the transition to sustainable growth and to quality jobs?

Consuming our resources responsibly has become an inescapable necessity. The challenges of expanding resource supply to meet future demand – whilst avoiding irreversible damage to our planet and devastating climate change - are unique. The added value of reducing greenhouse gas emissions, minimising energy and water waste, improving low-carbon mobility, and providing incentives to move to more sustainable and long-term resilient business models is evident - and yet,



our economies are still largely linear and geared towards unsustainable growth. Attaining sustainable growth will mean changing opportunities in the labour market: potentially more jobs – but different. This requires a new social model to ensure that we can make the transition in a fair way, creating quality jobs. Are we providing the right incentives and support for these developments?

- **Teresa Caveró**, Head of Research for Campaigns in Oxfam Intermón (Spain)
- **Patrick Costello**, Head of Cabinet of Commissioner Karmenu Vella, Commissioner for Environment, Fisheries and Maritime affairs
- **Sebastian Godinot**, Chief Economist, WWF Europe
- **Kathleen Van Brempt**, Vice-President of the S&D Group
- **Frank Vandenbroucke**, Professor at the KULeuven and Member of the Progressive Economy Scientific Board
- **Józef Niemiec**, Deputy General Secretary, European Trade Union Confederation

Contribution from **Mr Serge de Gheldere**, founder and CEO of Futureproofed

A cocktail will be served outside the meeting-room.

