

## Spes policy dialogue Social impacts of the sustainability transition: evidence and policies for a Social Green Deal

Monday 20 May 2024 Auditorium Palazzo delle Esposizioni, Via Milano 9/A, Roma

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Tackling climate change is an urgent priority for the security of our planet and future generations. The European Green Deal (EGD) - one of the flagship initiatives of the 2019-2024 EU mandate - has provided ambitious legislation to move Europe towards a carbon neutral society. However, climate solutions – and, more broadly, sustainability transitions – need to be embedded within social justice to ensure no one is left behind during this transition.

The focus on the social dimension of the just transition has been insufficient in the last EU mandate. This is leading to a backlash from groups unable to shoulder the cost of the EGD or concerned about its impact on their standard of living, following a cost-of-living crisis fuelled by the COVID-19 pandemic and Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

At the same time, discussions around the next EU strategic agenda for 2024-2029 increasingly focus on competitiveness, productivity, industrial policies, enlargement and defence. There is a significant risk that the EGD – and even more so its social dimension – will be put on the back burner or even rolled back, which would worsen societal divisions, threaten a socially just transition and even Europe's democracies.

In this political context, research is crucial to provide evidence and support good policymaking. The SPES (Sustainability Performances Evidence & Scenarios) project will bring together key stakeholders from international and EU institutions, civil society organisations and media in a policy dialogue to discuss SPES findings on the social impacts of the sustainability transition and what policies are needed under a Social Green Deal during the EU next mandate.

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Event organized by

- SPES Sustainability Performances, Evidence and Scenarios
- ASviS Italian Alliance for Sustainable Development
- University of Florence

In collaboration with

- ARCO Action Research for CO-development
- CiMET Italy's National University Centre for Applied Economic Studies
- Wellbeing Economy Alliance WEAll

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## PROGRAMME

Moderator: Andrea Ferrannini, University of Florence and Spes researcher and project manager

- 11:15 11:40
  Opening and presentation of Spes arguments
  Mario Biggeri, Spes scientific coordinator, University of Florence
  11:40 12:30
  Policy roundtable
  Elisabetta Ambrosi, journalist "II Fatto Quotidiano"
  Peter Benczur, European commission Joint research centre
  Romina Boarini, Oecd Wise
  Laura de Bonfils, Social platform
  Lars De Nul, European commission Dg Rtd
  Enrico Giovannini, ASviS
  Linda Laura Sabbadini
  Frank Siebern-Thomas, European commission Dg Empl
  Heriberto Tapia, Undp Hdro
  12:30 12:50
- 12:50 13:00 Lightening-up round
- 13:00 13:15 Closing

Mario Biggeri, Spes scientific coordinator, University of Florence

