



## European Parliament Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

### Discussion on European Commission proposal for the establishment of a European Labour Authority

Brussels, 29 August 2018



**Jean Claude Juncker**, president of the European Commission, announced the creation of a European Labour Authority in his State of the Union Address on 13th September 2017. In view of the large number of citizens working in another Member State (17 million at present), there is a need for a more effective application of EU labour rules in those Member States.

The European Parliament Committee EMPL held a first discussion on the amendments which had been introduced by Members of the Committee to the Draft European Parliament Legislative Resolution which had been drawn up in this respect.

The rapporteur, **Jeroen Lenaers (EPP)**, underlined in his introductory intervention that there is a need for strict, clear and enforceable rules on labour mobility at EU level. Although the new Agency needs to have real enforcement capacity, the rapporteur indicated that his aim is to look for a right balance between the competences of the national authorities in line with the subsidiarity principle and the need for an Agency with the capacity to improve the enforcement of rules in the Member States.



He thanked the members for their contributions and also indicated that, although many details still have to be sorted out, a crucial task for the Authority will be to provide information on social legislation to the EU citizens.

Several members took the floor and indicated what, in their opinion, the European Labour Authority should look like. In general, they pointed to the importance of assuring that the new Agency will work effectively in practice, and not just be a 'toothless administrative tigre'.