

ESIP at a glance

The European alliance of social protection systems

In a constantly evolving and increasing complex environment, strategic alliances are the way forward. The continued development of the European Single Market and in particular the free movement of citizens in an enlarged Europe are creating a growing need for transnational cooperation between the various social insurance systems. There is a need therefore for the different systems to come together to exchange views and develop strategies to meet the common socio-economic challenges. In this way, and by sharing their good practices and taking constructive positions, they are also able to participate in the decision-making process at a European level.

This is why, in 1996, the European Social Insurance Platform (ESIP) was established. Today, ESIP represents over 30 member organisations from fourteen EU Member States and Switzerland.

A will to participate in the decision-making process

ESIP represents the following:

- A platform for transnational dialogue between national social security institutions in Europe
- A strategic alliance for developing common positions to influence the European decision-making process
- A consultation forum for the European institutions and other multinational bodies active in the field of social security

ESIP's mission is threefold:

- To preserve high-profile social security for Europe
- To reinforce solidarity-based social insurance systems
- To maintain European social protection quality

Through the ESIP office in Brussels, the member organisations are able to closely monitor the socio-economic and political developments in the EU and elaborate and submit their joint positions and recommendations to the Community Institutions, thus enabling them to participate directly in decision-making at the European level in support of solidarity-based social insurance systems.

Activities in the service of its members

In modernising and adapting social protection to changes in European society, the responsible organisations need to make their own contribution. ESIP continually provides its members with information on European social news and facilitates audiences with the decision makers. It brings national experts together on a regular basis in permanent committees dealing with pensions, healthcare and family and employment policy. These working groups analyse and discuss the important current issues *such as services of general interest, services in the internal market, the mobility of patients, modernising social protection, the open method of coordination....*

A permanent team in Brussels

The ESIP team is led by the Director Franz Terwey, supported by the Deputy Director, Marie Jouffe. Christine Dawson is responsible for general coordination and technical support for the member organisations and Felicitas Ramondetti manages the Secretariat.

ESIP's office is located at the heart of the political centre of Brussels at the "Maison Européenne de la Protection Sociale", close by the European Parliament and all relevant Directorate Generals of the European Commission concerned with social policy.

ESIP Member Organisations

AUSTRIA	HVSVT	Hauptverband der Österreichischen Sozialversicherungsträger, Vienna
BELGIUM	ONP/RVP	Office National des Pensions/Rijksdienst voor Pensioenen, Brussels
CZECH REPUBLIC	ČSSZ	Česká Správa Sociálního Zabezpečení (The Czech Social Security Administration), Prague
FINLAND	ETK FAII TVR	Eläketurvakeskus (Finnish Centre for Pensions), Helsinki Tapaturmavakuutuslaitosten liitto (Federation of Accident Insurance Institutions), Helsinki Työttömyysvakuutusrahasto (Unemployment Insurance Fund), Helsinki
FRANCE	CCMSA CNAF CNAMTS CNAV FNMF	Caisse Centrale de la Mutualité Sociale Agricole, Paris Caisse Nationale d'Allocations Familiales, Paris Caisse Nationale d'Assurance Maladie des Travailleurs, Paris Caisse Nationale d'Assurance Vieillesse, Paris Fédération Nationale de la Mutualité Française, Paris
GERMANY	AOK-BV BKK-BV IKK-BV LKK-BV VdAK AEV Kn See-KK DGUV BLB DRV GLA	AOK-Bundesverband, Bonn Bundesverband der Betriebskrankenkassen, Essen Bundesverband der Innungskrankenkassen, Bergisch Gladbach Bundesverband der landwirtschaftlichen Krankenkassen, Kassel Verband der Angestellten-Krankenkassen, Siegburg Arbeiter-Ersatzkassen-Verband, Siegburg Knappschaft, Bochum See-Krankenkasse, Hamburg Deutsche gesetzliche Unfallversicherung, Berlin Bundesverband der landwirtschaftlichen Berufsgenossenschaften, Kassel Deutsche Rentenversicherung Bund, Berlin Gesamtverband der landwirtschaftlichen Alterskassen, Kassel
ITALY	INPDAP INPS	Istituto Nazionale di Previdenza per i Dipendenti Dell'Amministrazione Pubblica, Rome Istituto Nazionale della Previdenza Sociale, Rome
LUXEMBOURG	ALOSS	Association Luxembourgeoise des Organismes de Sécurité Sociale, Luxembourg
NETHERLANDS	CVZ SVB	College voor Zorgverzekeringen, Diemen Sociale Verzekeringsbank, Amstelveen
POLAND	ZUS	Zakład Ubezojeczzen Spolecznych (Social Insurance Institution), Warsaw
ROMANIA	NHIF	Casa Națională De Asigurări De Sănătate (National Health Insurance Fund), Bucharest
SLOVAKIA	SIA	Sociálna poisťovňa (Social Insurance Agency), Bratislava
SWEDEN	SSIA	Försäkringskassan (Swedish Social Insurance Agency), Stockholm
SWITZERLAND	SUVA	Schweizerische Unfallversicherungsanstalt, Lucerne
UNITED KINGDOM	IPC	International Pension Centre, Newcastle upon Tyne