



**21 Oct.  
2022**

# **EU SOCIAL POLICY AND SUSTAINABILITY: FROM THE GREEN TRANSITION TO LEGAL CERTAINTY FOR WORKERS**

## **Lecture of the Jean Monnet Chair SESaMe**

### **Abstract**

The term “sustainability” has a polysemic content, since it has been used from multiple and varied ideological perspectives, not always with a redistributive and ecological purpose in mind. In the sphere of the European Union, a robust discourse has also been built by the European Commission, which seeks the integration of environmental and social objectives, particularly through the actions set out in the framework of the Communication of the European Commission on the 2019 European Green Deal. The concept of “sustainability” involves a commitment linked to the concept of social justice, understood via the principles of freedom, equity, security and human dignity. In short, this notion of sustainability is based on the notion of collective social fraternity. The concept of decent work supposes the necessary labour connection with the concept of sustainability that the UN has designed, based on Goal 8 of the SDGs. The European Commission has already set out a clear vision of how to achieve climate neutrality by 2050. In this context, the Commission Communication on the European Green Deal of 2019 establishes the obligation for all legislative proposals and delegated acts to include, in their statement of reasons, a specific section to explain how this principle will be respected. Thus, the ecological transition is conceived as an economic opportunity, due to the great potential that it opens up for the creation of activities and new jobs. To ensure a full and successful transition in the European Union, it will be necessary to transform a whole spectrum of regulations. Strengthen legal certainty by setting working conditions and promoting a “foresight capacity” through strategic planning and anticipation, a holistic and proactive approach, rather than traditional enforcement mechanisms, to intensify the green foresight into legal certainty for workers. From an environmental and labour perspective, it anchors its foundations in a collective construction project. In this context, collective rights must be at the centre of such protection as one of the most important piece in the normative puzzle surrounding the green transition.

### **Programme**

- 12:00 Introduction**  
Prof. Luca RATTI, University of Luxembourg, Jean Monnet Chair Holder
- 12:15 Lecture**  
Prof. Consuelo CHACARTEGUI, University Pompeu Fabra Barcelona
- 13:15 Discussion and Q&A**
- 14:00 Closing**

Faculty of Law, Economics and Finance, Weicker Building, room C005, 4 rue Alphonse Weicker, 2721 Luxembourg



□ FACULTY OF LAW,  
ECONOMICS  
AND FINANCE

 **SESaMe**  
A Jean Monnet Chair at the  
University of Luxembourg



The SESaMe Jean Monnet Chair is identified by project No. 101048092. Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA, granting authority). Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.