

Social Innovation in the EU



<http://www.scom.eu/>

Themes



EU Social dimension



Social Innovation



Social Economy



How the EU supports Social Innovation?



Examples of Social Innovation



The road to the future



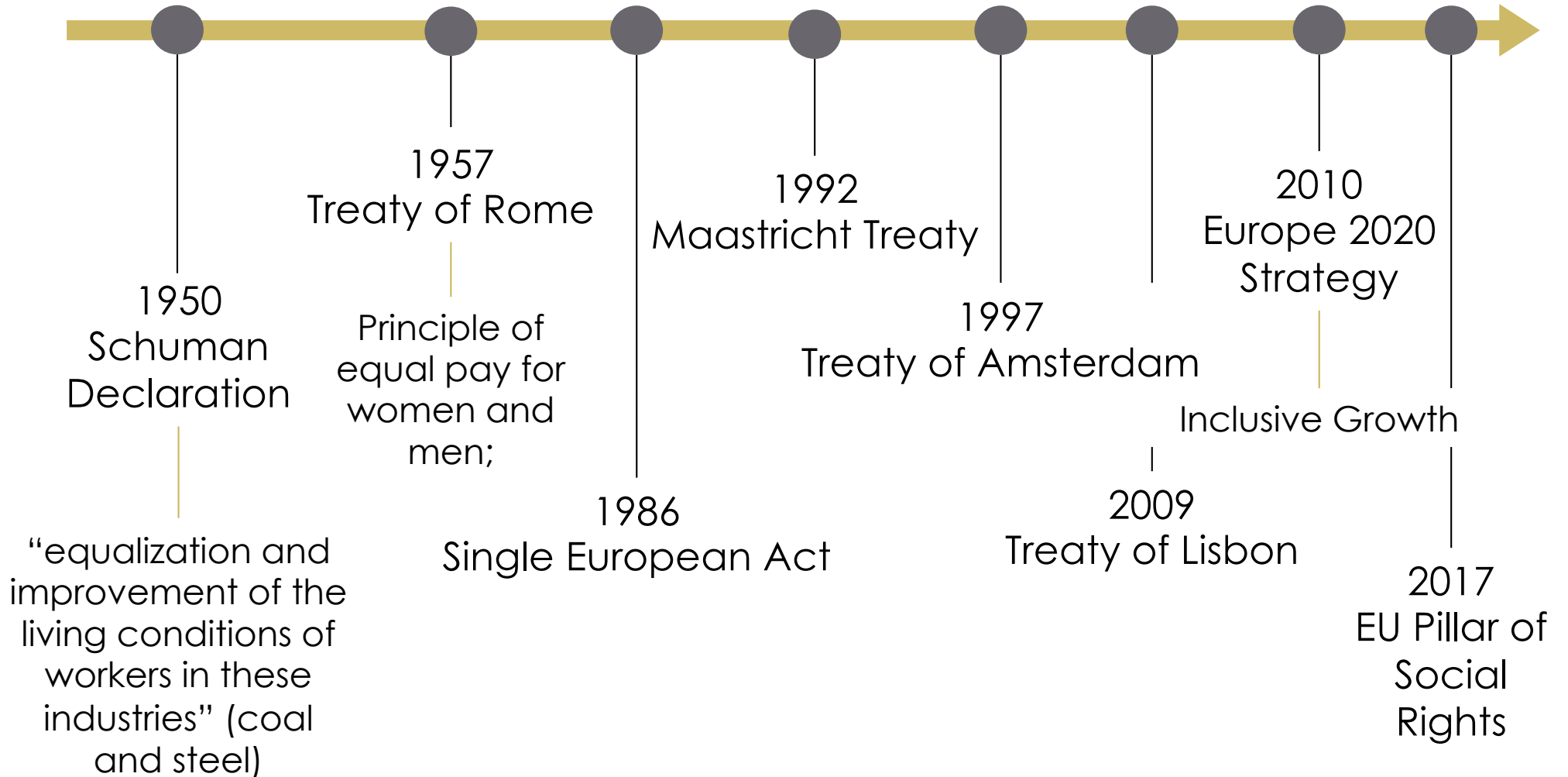
EU Social dimension

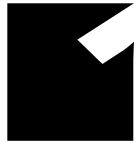
... and why?



EU Social dimension

Background





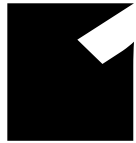
EU Social dimension

Background: EU Pillar of Social Rights

Proclaimed by EU leaders at the Social Summit in Gothenburg in November 2017

20 key principles and rights to support fair and well-functioning labour markets and welfare systems.



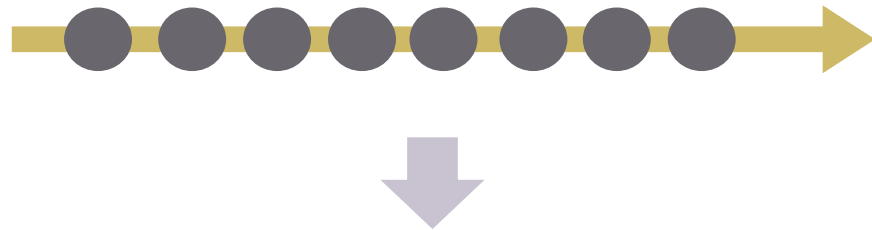


EU Social dimension

Concept

Today:

“The **Social dimension** is aimed at the promotion of employment, improved living conditions, proper social protection, dialogue between management and labour, the development of human resources with a view to lasting high employment and the combating of exclusion” (Art. 151 TFEU)



Legal basis:

- Article 3 of Treaty on EU
- Article 9, 10, 19, 45-48, 145-150 and 151-161 of the Treaty of the Functioning of the EU



The EU has only **limited competence** when it comes to social issues as most of it is up to national governments.



Social Innovation



Social Innovation

Definition

“Social innovation means developing **new ideas**, services and models to better address **social issues**. It invites input from public and private actors, including civil society, to improve social services.”

(Directorate General EMPL)

“Social innovations are **new ideas** that **meet social needs, create social relationships** and **form new collaborations**. These innovations can be products, services or models addressing unmet needs more effectively.”

(Directorate General GROW)

In partnership with national authorities, social partners, civil society organisations and other stakeholders, the Directorate-General addresses challenges linked to globalisation, the ageing of Europe's population and changing social realities.

Commission's policies:

- Business and industry
- Single market

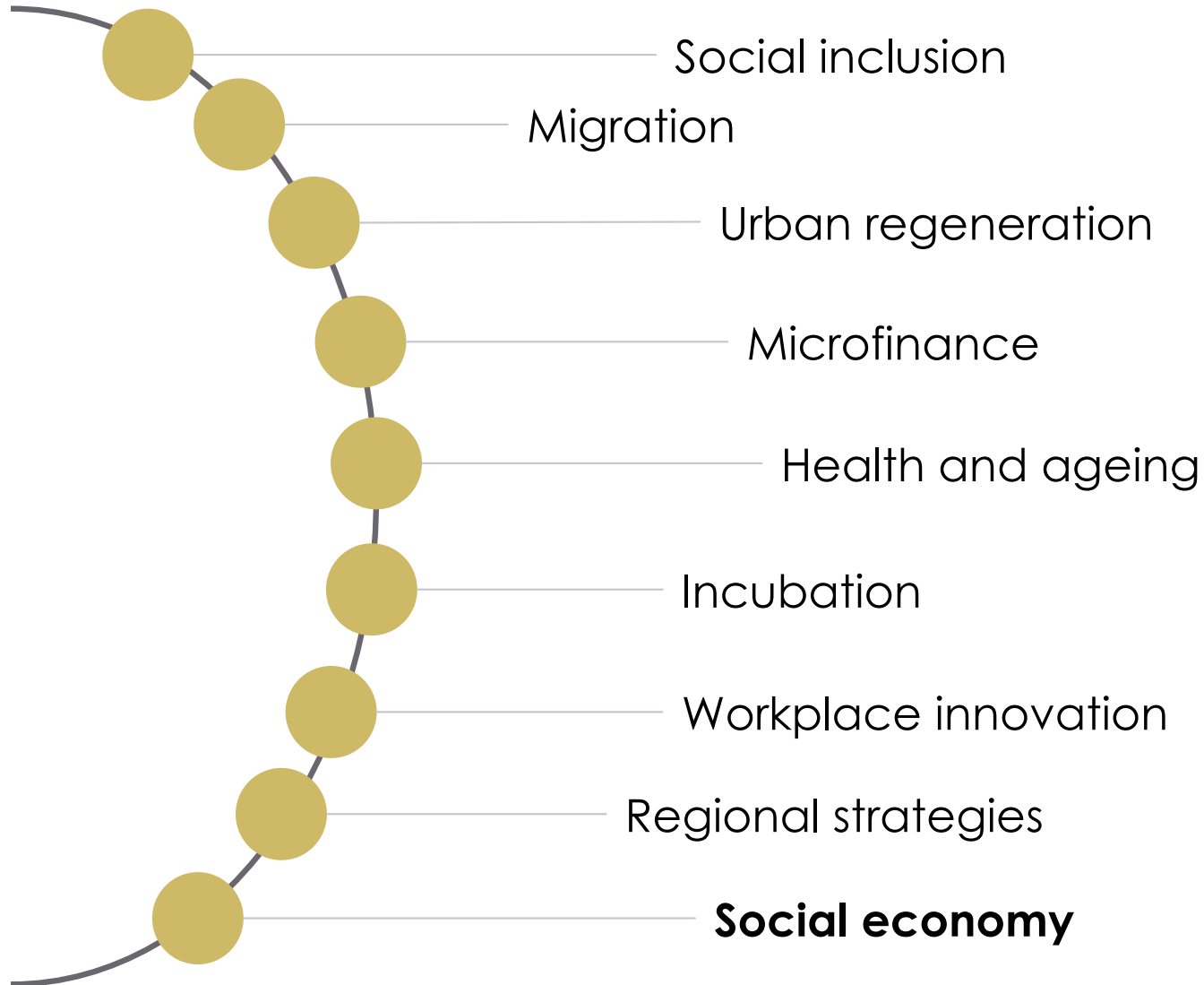
Of the Commission's 10 political priorities:

- Jobs, growth and investment
- Digital single market
- Internal market
- Economic and monetary union

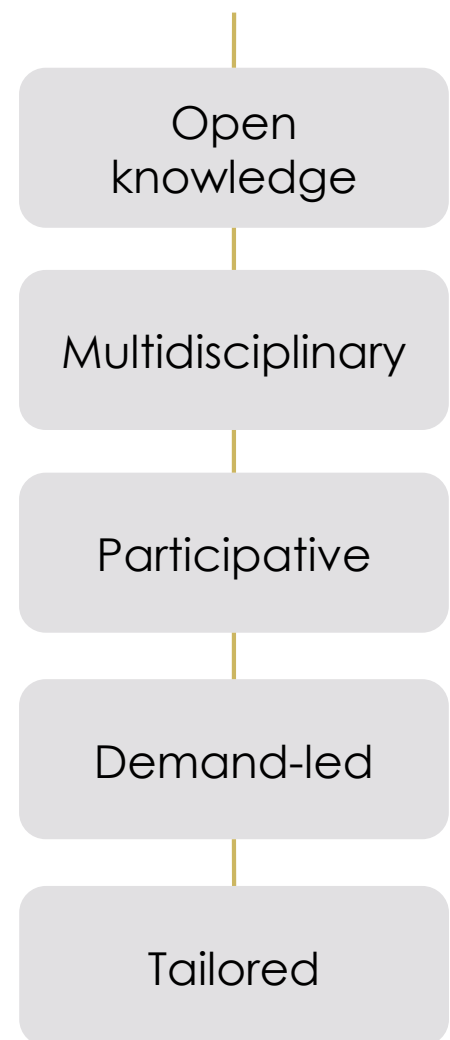


Social Innovation

Application



Characteristics of a social innovation project:





Social Economy

Social Economy

Definition and principles

Social economy is the “set of organisations that **do not belong to the public sector**, operate democratically with the members having equal rights and duties and practice a **particular regime of ownership and distribution of profits**, employing the surpluses to expand the organisation and improve its services to its members and society.”

(Social Economy Charter, CNLAMCA)



- primacy of the individual and the social objective over capital
- voluntary and open membership
- democratic control by the membership (does not concern foundations as they have no members)
- combination of the interests of members/users and/or the general interest
- defence and application of the principle of solidarity and responsibility
- autonomous management and independence from public authorities
- most of the surpluses are used in pursuit of sustainable development objectives, services of interest to members or the general interest.

Expert Group on Social Economy and Social Enterprises

Led by DG GROW and DG EMPL and composed of different entities across EU Member States.

- — ***Pillar 1 – Access to finance***
- — ***Pillar 2 – Access to markets***
- — ***Pillar 3 – Improving framework conditions***

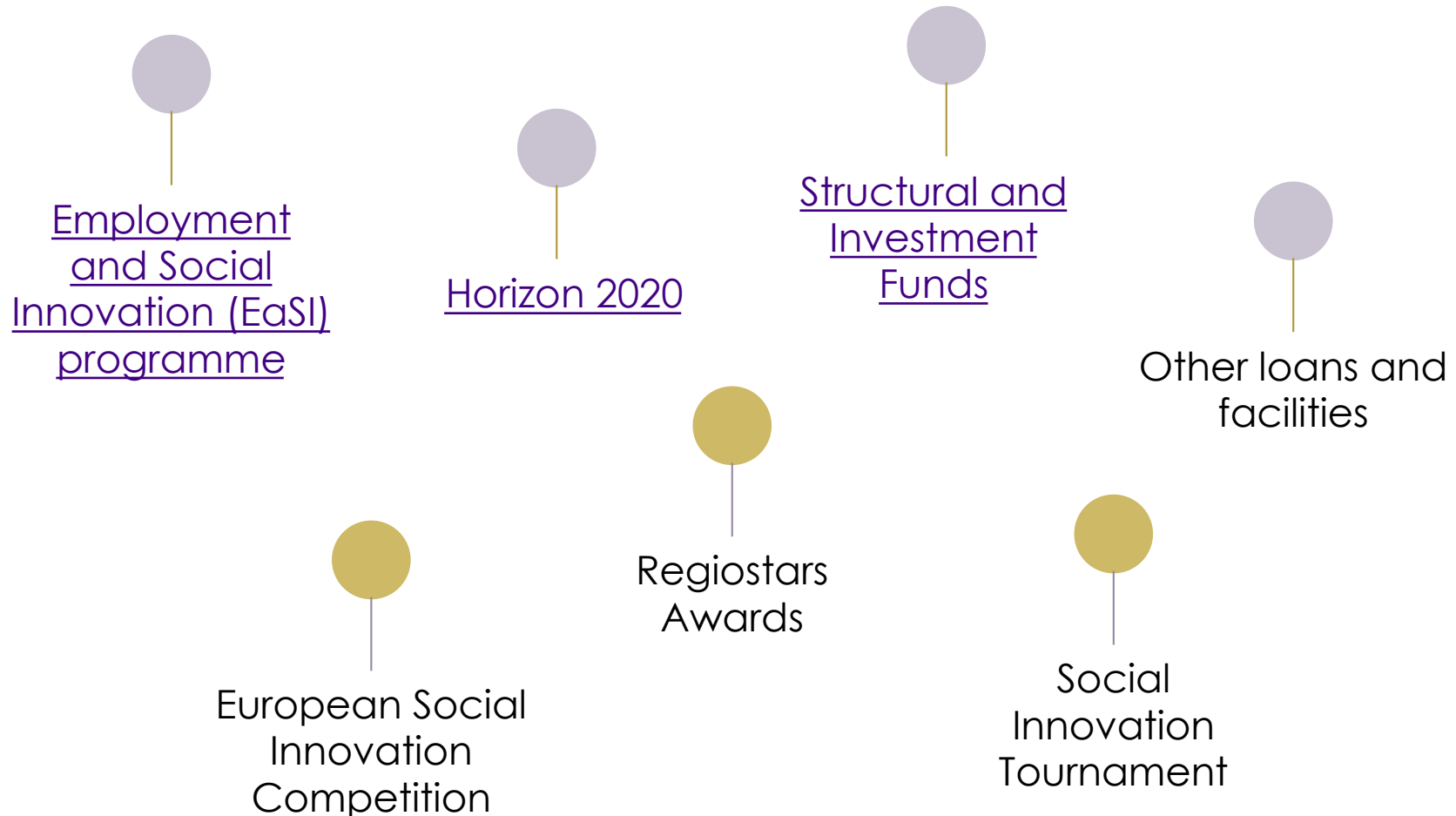


How the EU supports Social Innovation?

EU support to SI

Current funding opportunities

To test **social and labour market policy innovations**, EU institutions provide direct and indirect support through :



EU support to SI

Future funding opportunities

Horizon Europe (2021 – 2027)

Pillar 2 - *Global Challenges and Industrial Competitiveness*

Cluster/Mission: **Inclusive and Secure Society**

InvestEU Programme (2021 – 2027)

It will bring together under one roof a multitude of EU financial instruments.

Policy area: **Social investment and skills**



Examples of Social Innovation



Examples of Social Innovation

Examples of funded projects

HORIZON 2020

NEMESIS - Novel Educational Model Enabling Social Innovation Skills

<https://nemesis-edu.eu/>

“**NEMESIS** is a European project bringing together education and social innovation. NEMESIS represents a new approach towards the attainment of social innovation skills by combining innovative learning models, open technologies, and participatory relations and processes. The objective is to foster entrepreneurial mindsets and creative thinking among primary and secondary students, allowing them to become the social innovators of tomorrow.”

SIC – Social Innovation Community

<https://www.siceurope.eu/>

“**SIC** is the community for social innovators across Europe.[...] - SIC will strengthen, connect and grow existing social innovation communities - including public sector innovation, digital social innovation, intermediaries, social economy actors and more.” The aim is to “help deepen the knowledge and capacity of the networks to act and grow, and support public decision-makers and other stakeholders to work with social innovators more effectively in solving public challenges”.



Examples of Social Innovation

Examples of funded projects

EaSI

BESPAT - Best European Policies, Analysis and Transference in PHS

<http://www.bespat.eu/index.php>

Best European Policies, Analysis and Transference in PHS (BESPAT)' was aimed at “identifying good practices regarding the policies and actions in the Personal and Household Services sector carried out by local or national governments of countries involved in the project”.

BU.GS – BUilding Green Skills

<http://www.bugsproject.eu/>

“The BU.GS project overall objective was to contribute to the removal of “bugs”, namely green skills gaps, which cause an incorrect result in the economic development and professional growth in the Construction Sector.”

Examples of Social Innovation

Our project

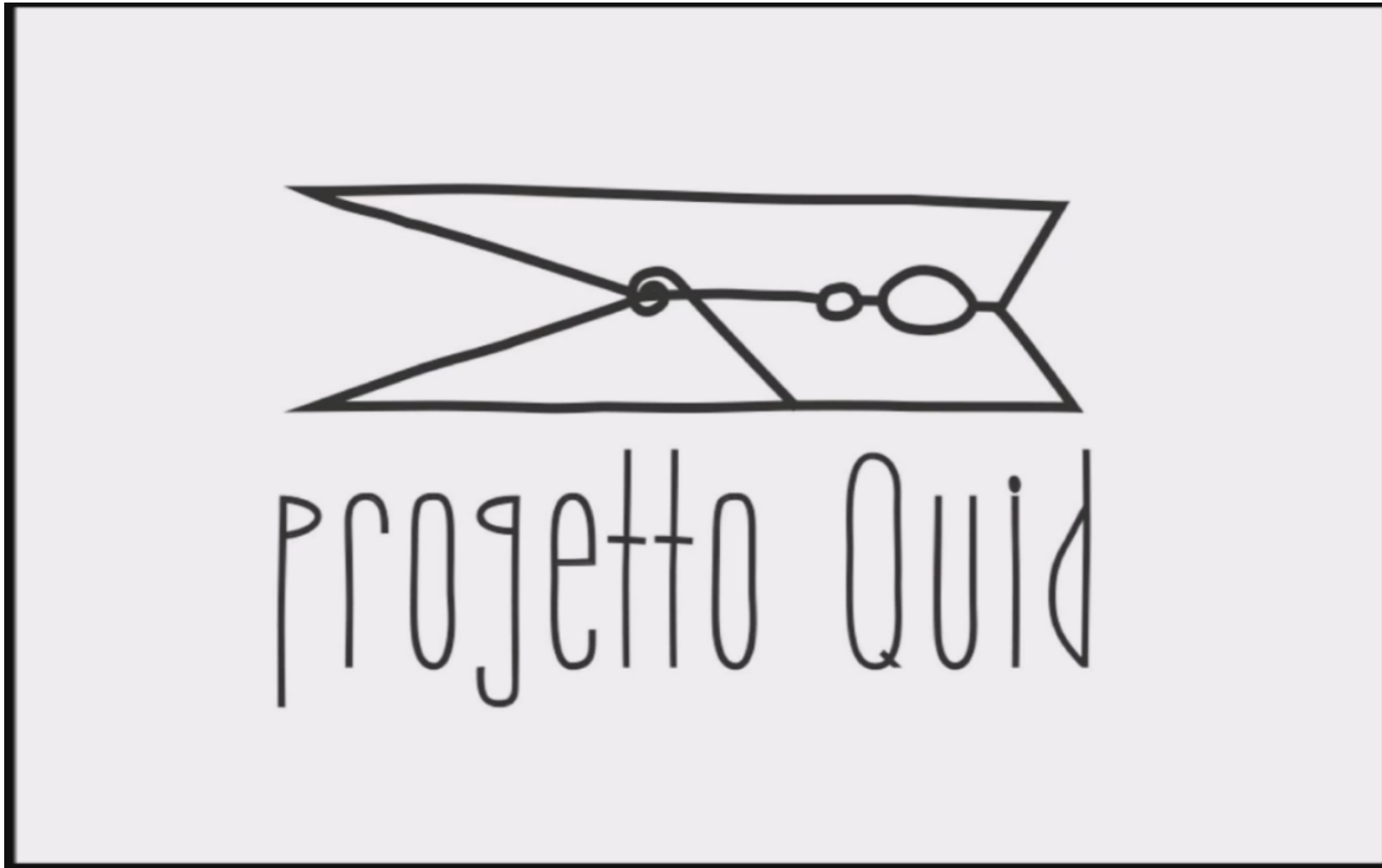
Women
Innovative
Society
Europe
4
ALL



Examples of Social Innovation

Progetto QUID

Interview with **Giulia Houston** – Responsible for Institutional Relations, Progetto QUID





Examples of Social Innovation

International cooperation

Social innovation projects in Africa



The road to the future

6 The road to the future

The current debate on the social dimension

“Much of the debate in our countries concerns the way EU legislation is applied. The current Commission has made great efforts to provide guidance on how the law is to be applied and to render the legislation clearer wherever possible. The implementation, application and enforcement of European social legislation today lie, however, in the hands of the Member States.” (Reflection paper on the social dimension of Europe)

“limit the 'social dimension' to free movement”

“those who want to do more could do more in the social field”

“the EU-27 could deepen the social dimension together”

Thank you for your attention!

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<http://www.scom.eu/>

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[Recent Evolutions of Social Economy - Study](#) (European Economic and Social Committee)

[Reflection paper on the social dimension of Europe](#), EU Commission (2017)

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[European Cluster Conference 2019](#)

[EU Programme for Employment and Social Innovation \(EaSI\)](#)

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[European social innovation competition](#)

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[Social Innovation Tournament](#)

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[Nemesis project \(H2020\)](#)

[SIC project \(H2020\)](#)

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