



Briefing note

Coming Together for a Just Transition Linking Climate Action and Social Justice in Europe

11.07.23, 16.00 - 21.30 CEST

NH Hotel Ciudad de Valladolid, Avenida Ramón Pradera 10-12 in Valladolid, Spain

OVERVIEW

The Spanish and Belgian Presidencies of the Council of the EU in 2023 and 2024, under the leaderships of **Teresa Ribera**, Spain's Minister for Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge, and **Zakia Khattabi**, Belgium's Minister of Climate, Environment, Sustainable Development and the Green Deal, have the potential to give a significant impulse to a "**Just Transition**" in Europe and beyond, ensuring that people and social justice are at the heart of climate and environmental action.

Now is the time for all forces willing to achieve a livable and sustainable future to come together, **put Just Transition at the centre of the political debate** and make it a political priority for the coming years. This includes setting up ambitious and transformative European and national Just Transition strategies, developing participatory plans and designing the necessary legislation and investments for a Just Transition.

With the aim of emphasising the importance of an ambitious and truly Just Transition, especially in the framework of the two upcoming Presidencies of the Council of the EU, SOLIDAR, the Foundation for European Progressive Studies (FEPS), Movimiento por la Paz, el Desarme y la Libertad (MPDL) and Asamblea de Cooperación por la Paz (ACPP) are hosting a **closed-door event on 11 July 2023 in Valladolid, Spain**. This event, which will take place **between 16:00 and 21:30 CEST at NH Hotel Ciudad de Valladolid (Avenida Ramón Pradera 10-12)**, will gather stakeholders from Spain, other EU Member States and the European level for a timely exchange of views on acting together for a Just Transition.

Taking advantage of the **Informal Meeting of European Environment & Energy Ministers** that will take place in Valladolid on the same day, European progressive Ministers, including **Teresa Ribera** (Spain), **Zakia Khattabi** (Belgium) and **Leonore Gewessler** (Austria), will participate in the second part of the event and showcase the perspectives of their countries. Hopefully, even more Ministers will join them.

Participants in the event will include representatives of civil society organisations, trade unions, think tanks and foundations. At the event, a **call to action** by civil society organisations and other stakeholders will be presented to the Ministers and will give impulse for further actions to advance a Just Transition, especially in the framework of the Spanish and Belgian Presidencies of the Council of the EU in 2023 and 2024.

In this briefing note, you will find an updated agenda of the event (page 2), as well as some logistical information (pages 3-5) concerning the venue and how to reach it, tips for accommodation, rules for requesting a reimbursement (if you are eligible) and more.

For questions or further information, please contact Andrea Casamenti from SOLIDAR at andrea.casamenti@solidar.org or call him at +32484873733.



Agenda

- 16.00 - 16.15** Welcome by **Manuel de la Rocha Rubí**, President of MPDL, and **Mikael Leyi**, Secretary General of SOLIDAR
- 16.15 - 16.55** Presentation of plans for Just Transition during the Spanish Presidency of the Council of the EU by **Laura Martín Murillo**, Director of Spain's Just Transition Institute
- Presentation of plans for Just Transition during the Belgian Presidency of the Council of the EU by **Anaïs De Munck**, Advisor Green Deal Unit, Cabinet of Belgian Federal Minister Zakia Khattabi
- Presentation on EU Policies for a Just Transition by **Frank Siebern-Thomas**, Head of Fair, Green, and Digital Transitions, Research Unit, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, European Commission
- Intervention on an economy for a Just Transition by **Miguel Costa Matos**, Member of the Portuguese Parliament
- 16.55 - 18.30** Working Groups:
- Which ways towards a socio-ecological welfare state?
 - How to foster decent, clean jobs and lifelong learning for a just transition?
 - The European Green Deal 2.0: prioritising social and environmental conditionality?
 - How to ensure Local and Global Just Transitions?
 - What kind of governance for a well-being economy and a clean energy transition?
- 18.30 - 19.00** Break
- 19.00 - 19.05** Welcome by **László Andor**, Secretary-General of FEPS
- 19.05 - 19.25** Interventions by:
- **Eva Saldaña Buenache**, Executive Director of Greenpeace Spain
 - **Laura de Bonfils**, Secretary General of Social Platform
 - **Pepe Postigo**, Board member of La Coordinadora, The Spanish Development NGO Platform
 - **Ludovic Voet**, Confederal Secretary at European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC)
- 19.25 - 19.30** Presentation of calls to action by **László Andor**, Secretary General of FEPS, and **Marta Iglesias**, International Action Director of MPDL
- 19.30 - 19.40** **Zakia Khattabi**, Federal Minister for Climate, Environment, Sustainable Development and Green Deal of Belgium
- 19.40 - 19.50** **Teresa Ribera**, Vice-President of the Government of Spain and Minister for the Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge
- 19.50 - 20:00** Concluding remarks by **Mikael Leyi**, Secretary General of SOLIDAR, and group picture
- 20:00 - 21:30** Reception