# Eurodiaconia Connecting faith and social justice through action



# EUROPEAN SEMESTER CYCLE

Understanding the Autumn Package and preparing next steps

Anne-Sophie Wislocki





• What is the European Semester?

• 2023 European Semester process

Eurodiaconia letter and social policy priorities

• How to get involved?

2022 Autumn Package

Other useful resources



## WHAT IS THE EUROPEAN SEMESTER?

- EU Framework for the coordination of economic and employment policies
- Structured discussion between the European Commission and Member States about fiscal, economic and employment challenges
- Since 2011

- Social issues increasingly part of the European Semester analysis
- Two frameworks:
  - European Pillar of Social Rights and SDGs
  - Since 2021: Social Pillar Action Plan and 2030 Headline Targets
- Opportunities for civil society involvement at EU and national level



## **OUR SOCIAL PRIORITIES**

- 1. Strengthen social protection schemes to make them adequate and crisis proof
- 2. Invest in social services
- 3. Full implementation of the Child Guarantee
- 4. Work towards target of eradicating homelessness by 2030
- 5. Develop high-quality person centred care services
- 6. Ensure quality reception and integration of refugees and migrants
- 7. Improve consultation and involvement of civil society

## 2023 AUTUMN PACKAGE



#### **ASGS**

- Strong focus on current crisis
- Recognition of vulnerable households and business
- Recognises the high levels of NEETS, risk of energy poverty, and the need for targeted measures for labour market inclusion
- Strong focus on skills development
- Importance of ECEC for equal opportunities
- Resilient, quality and accessible health and care services
- Improving social safety nets
- Involvement of civil society organisations

#### **JER**

- Focus on labour shortages and skills
- Recognition of in-work poverty
- Higher risk of poverty of people with disabilities
- Increased risk of energy poverty
- Increase in demand of LTC
- Ukrainian refugees: Implementation of the TPD and recognition of qualifications
- Improve labour market participation of youth and women
- Equity in education and support to disadvantaged groups
- Adequacy of minimum income schemes
- Need to address homelessness

## **EURODIACONIA REACTION**

- Recognises the need to strengthen social protection schemes and improve adequacy
- Focus only on minimum income and wages it could be broader and include social investments in social services

- Call on Member States to address homelessness
- But little mention of the problem

- Recognises the importance of giving access to social protection to refugees from Ukraine
- No conclusions on whether this could be applied to all refugees



- Call to implement the Child Guarantee: focus on early childhood and children from disadvantaged households
- Data from 2021 Little mention of the struggle for families with the current inflation
- Recognition of the risk of increased energy poverty
  Recognition of increasing in-work poverty
- No mention that overall risk of poverty is increasing
  No mention of mental health issues
- Need of quality, accessible and affordable care and the labour shortage in care are recognised Recognition of informal careers

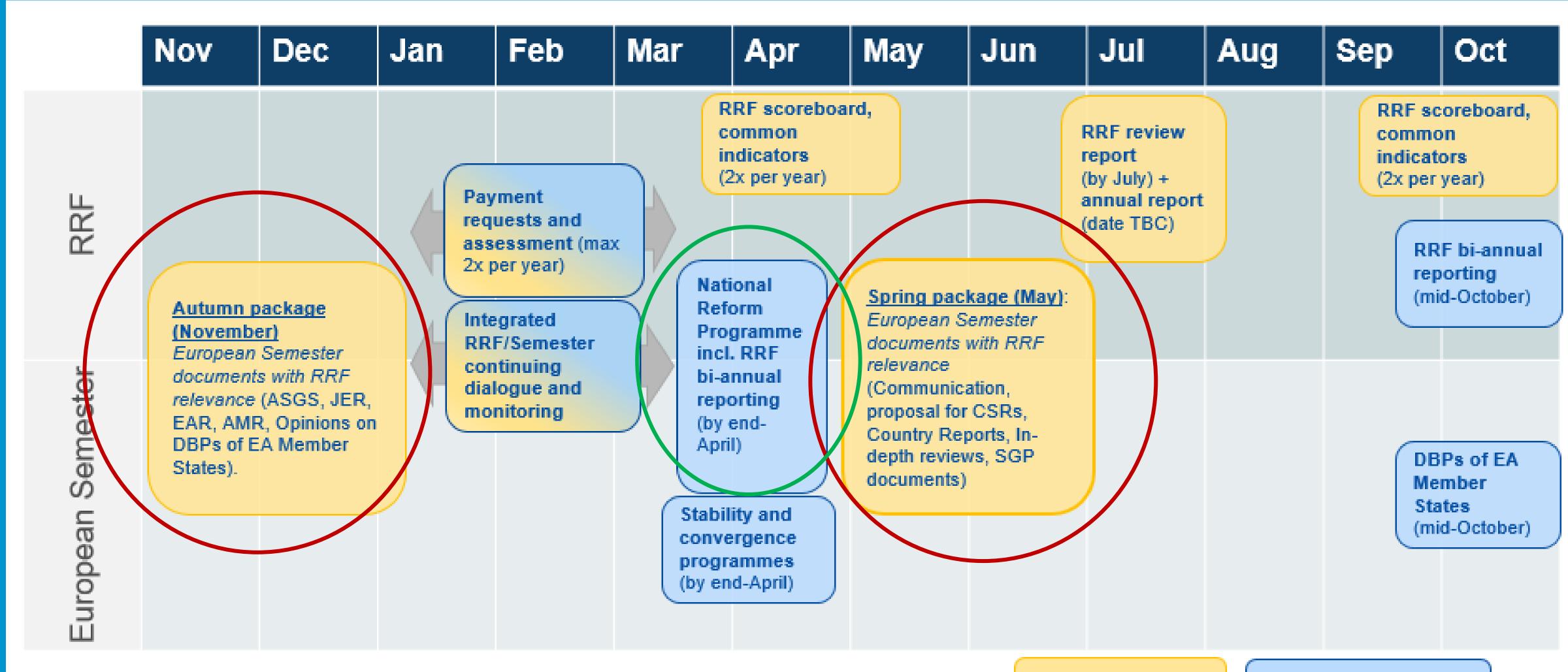
  Recognition of high out of pocket costs
- No clear call for reforms and increasing investment in the care sector



Any questions on the presented documents?



## 2023 EUROPEAN SEMESTER PROCESS



Commission

Member States



# HOW TO GET INVOLVED IN THE 2023 EUROPEAN SEMESTER CYCLE

	January - March	April	June	September
National level	Feed into NRPs: - Written input - Ask for meeting Meet with Ministry	Analyse NRPs		
EU level	Feed into Country Reports: - Written input	What is missing in NRPs?	Webinar for members on Country Reports and CSRs	
	Shadow CSRs		Reaction to Country Reports and CSRs  State of the Social Union Conference	Input for Autumn package



Any questions on Eurodiaconia's involvement?

How are you planning to get involved?

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# THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION











www.eurodiaconia.org



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