Recommendations for the 2024–2029 EU policy agenda to strengthen future pension adequacy

Ensure and promote the paritarian model, which entails social protection institutions established and managed by employers and trade unions through collective agreements, as an integral part of designing and implementing occupational social protection policies. Paritarian institutions leverage collective mechanisms to enhance coverage and the attainment of pension adequacy for all.

European Association of Paritarian Institutions

Put the interests of end investors at the heart of Europe’s secondary markets by advancing the Capital Markets Union project and providing deep pools of liquidity that reduce the cost of transactions for pension fund asset managers and other investors.

Association for Financial Markets in Europe

Pensions must ensure income for a life in dignity for the entire lifespan. Statutory pensions must fairly compensate people for their contributions during their prime years, ensure gender equality and solidarity for life events via pension credits for childcare, informal care, unemployment, sickness, disability or other types of exclusion from the labour market. Pensions must guarantee economic security as people age through regular and automatic adaptations to the evolution of living costs and incomes.

AGE Platform Europe

In its annual report on the real return of long-term and pension-saving products, Better Finance provides evidence that many products on the market are already failing to ensure pension adequacy, placing many pension savers at risk of not meeting their individual retirement objectives. Better Finance stresses the need for access to unbiased advice, products that provide value for money, cost reduction measures across all products, standardised disclosure of information on actual costs and past performance, and the promotion of a culture of long-term financial planning.

BETTER FINANCE
Promote funded pensions and make pay-as-you-go first-pillar pensions less burdensome and costly in terms of contributions, especially for young generations.

*Cross Border Benefits Alliance-Europe*

Financial literacy is pivotal to ensuring the well-being of people. From a very early stage, citizens must be equipped with sound financial skills to recognise the importance of personal finance and pension planning. Financial education stands at the core of Europe's way forward for a strong, resilient and future-proof society.

*European Banking Federation*

The priority should be to encourage people to supplement their public pensions through occupational pension schemes and personal pension products, notably by developing pension-tracking systems to inform citizens about the income they can expect in retirement, offering adequate tax incentives for retirement savings, implementing auto-enrolment mechanisms and amending the pan-European personal pension product (PEPP) to address the problems posed by the fee cap and the design of the risk-mitigation techniques.

*European Fund and Asset Management Association*

Facilitate the growth of pension funds by removing administrative, fiscal and regulatory barriers to cross-border investments in the real economy. Provide retirement security to EU citizens by creating a single market for stable and highly competitive pension fund investment vehicles such as listed real estate.

*European Public Real Estate Association*

Help people and especially mobile workers understand their pension rights and facilitate access to their pension entitlements, for instance by increasing transparency about pensions and increasing awareness.

*European Tracking Service Association*
Empower retail investors to participate in EU capital markets by providing wide access to financial products that match their needs and offering long-term investment opportunities that will help EU citizens to afford an appropriate retirement.

*Federation of European Securities Exchanges*

Ensure pension funds and insurers efficiently finance the decarbonisation of the built environment while generating the financial returns needed to fund their retirement obligations.

*European Association for Investors in Non-Listed Real Estate Vehicles*

Revise the Solvency II framework so that insurers can offer suitable long-term savings products, giving European citizens reassurances about their future pension. Insurers are willing to offer the protection people are looking for, be it in the form of guarantees or protection, but are only able to do so if key conditions are met.

*Insurance Europe*

Venture capital and private equity investments are not the only essential elements to help achieve the best possible returns for the retirements of pension- and insurance-holders. As Europe's population continues to age, a holistic approach is needed to address the challenges and opportunities, with the active involvement of investors, innovators, regulators and end-users from the silver generation to deliver substantial and innovative solutions for better services and systems.

*Invest Europe*

Ensure that the IORP II review remains a framework for minimum harmonisation and that the specificities of pension funds are considered in horizontal regulation.

*PensionsEurope*