

Getting Equal: confronting systems and power

A session on inequalities

Agenda

- Why we work on inequalities
- Video with Professor Tim Jackson
- Group work
- Wrap up

Why we work on inequalities

Video with Professor Tim Jackson

In order to ask questions about inequality and social justice, we need enough granularity, looking at different challenges across sectors but also in policy (eg. tax, regulation, lead by example, spending, investment). They are all very important to make progress in social justice.

What would you do where, in which sectors of the economy and with which government initiatives, if we are going to tackle social inequalities?



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This is a very big question! It is hard to come up with the definitive answers. There is a multi-stakeholder event hosted by the Finnish government in October, which is the sort of space that be created to happen for us to start to come to a solution

The 2030 Agenda outlines what is needed. It needs to be implemented - especially the importance of leaving no one behind! Including protecting basic services

Trade sector: addressing work regulation and ensuring decent working conditions, livable wage and human rights,, both in developing countries and regulations for producers in rich countries. (including redistributing profits where production happen

Being involved in the MFF policy process Tackle root cause Go from de-regulation to regulation, not bureaucracy approach though Use holistic approach, not tackle issues in isolation

1) Better measure the impact of different policies on inequalities. 2) Build an index on inequalities (partnership with universities). 3) PCSD is a key! Ensure = acces to social services, ensure that EU policies don't harm this access. Focus on trade.

Ensuring that any dialogue with the private sector begins with their responsibility to pay their tax; also increasing the awareness that the quality of services are directly related to the taxes that people pay

Go for pushing the doors more open with the traditional policy makers who start getting that GDP is not all. Go into business and human rights, yet it still takes place within a growth logic. Need to focus on breaking through the logic. (1)

Besides economy and sectors, we should focus on the values. What society do we want to build?

Economy shall serve people, not other way around Person-centered policies CONCORD should ask for a policy that is coherent in terms of economic procedures ("polluter pays", "compensation for natural resources being used")...

What would you do where, in which sectors of the economy and with which government initiatives, if we are going to tackle social inequalities?

Regulate public spending to focus on those that are left behind, and ensure that this public spending is in line with SDG's.

Support social movements who are ready to tackle the big question of the financial market and how it rules the world with creating computer figures as money

Continue to address the micro level of causing social change and put the advocacy argument also in a context of the bigger picture of addressing the fundamental problems

Promoting local cooperatives and social economy and regulate and make legal the freedom of association of workers. Enhance policies tht support establishment of such models of work opportunities

Engagement with national sustainable development planning, and advocating for the integration of 2030 Agenda targets and indicators in both national frameworks and in the EU as a whole. Maybe even with private sector organisations?

Need to impact the global value chain to ensure that producers are gaining fair share of the profit. Require new regulation and different business model.

keep focusing on the possibility and the business case. Main thing is to continue giving people a voice and be close to their expression of need. Transformation happens through participation.

Ensuring that the voices of people are heard and that there is proper reflection of the issues that they raise within policy discussions

Inequality is complex inter sectional concept. Concord doesn't implement activities but influence EU policies like MFF, trade, ODA. Each member have different expertise. The key is to put people and justice in the heart of all actions.



What would you do where, in which sectors of the economy and with which government initiatives, if we are going to tackle social inequalities?

How can CONCORD give young activists a platform to get their messages through and heard, and join forces Lobby for conditionality for use of EU funds on development: Closing gender pay gap, minimum wages etc

Education sector: continue to work on changing model, more inclusive and equal, including gender equality. Require more investment of government for publicly run education and thus affordable for everyone.

There is a failure within civil society both to listen and to education; we need to reflect on how we frame the public messaging on how our values address the challenges of social inequality

We need to focus and not broaden out in a world that is getting increasingly complex. It will get harder and harder to keep pace with the outside world. Can we/will we accept focus that goes deep and makes pol context messages on top?

What is our added value in addressing inequalities with concrete substance - how can we focus and still meet the challenges of the complexity of the new world.

Who owns the data has a lot of the power - it should not be owned by monopolies. There needs to be a social contract on data.

what is relevant actually? what makes a difference in the discourse and effects change? how can we focus? three or four areas of expertise? What are the others doing that is related?

Speculation in the food sector has to be regulated, food shouldn't be a stock market commodity. Governments should regulate this with restrictive policies.

Need analysis on what do we need to know? What is the niche that is specific but contributes to a larger change picture that does not find single solutions for very complex challenges



What would you do where, in which sectors of the economy and with which government initiatives, if we are going to tackle social inequalities?

Identify & Understand better who are the furthest left behind (Ask them these questions)
Start with National level & bringing it up at EU policy level - bring the public & society along.
Work on commonalities with global south.

Governance - should CONCORD also get engaged in the big lobby power in Europe that are promoting primarily a growth and profit business model?

Help to create the enabling environment.
Concord should decide the level of conversation with people. Must find focus, leave the other things to other stakeholders.