



### Presidency conference of the MoLSA (Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs) focused on the integration of people with disabilities into the labour market

**The theme of another conference organised by the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs on 21 and 22 September within the framework of the Czech Presidency was the support of people with disabilities in their integration into the labour market. During the two days, a series of panel discussions took place, focusing not only on strategic objectives with regard to the political and economic context, but also examples of good practice. Much attention was paid, among other things, to the Package of measures for the integration of people with disabilities into the labour market.**

The opening panel was opened by the Minister of Labour and Social Affairs Marian Jurečka (KDU-ČSL). Other speakers were the European Commissioner for Equality Helena Dalli, the French Minister for Persons with Disabilities Geneviève Darrieussecq, the State Secretary of the Slovenian Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities Simon Maljevac and Pat Clarke, Vice President of the European Disability Forum (EDF).

*"I am very pleased that the MoLSA managed to organise another important conference within the framework of our Presidency of the Council of the EU. The topic was especially significant this time. We addressed, how to help people who have some form of disability to integrate into the labour market. We are also working intensively on this topic at national level, and we have recently approved a whole package of measures that target people with disabilities. For example, we have approved an increase in contributions to support the employment of people with disabilities,"* said Minister Jurečka.

Important points of discussion during the conference included information on the newly prepared documents, namely the Action Plan for the Social Economy and the Package of Measures for the Integration of Persons with Disabilities into the Labour Market. *"It is good news that this topic is resonating at European level. We have the tools and a clear plan to help this group of people effectively,"* he added.

On the second day of the conference, discussions were held on concrete procedures and solutions in several areas. One of them is services, where strengthening the capacity of employment and integration services is key. Social enterprises and related alternative forms of employment as a pathway to an open labour market are also an important area. Of course, employers are also a crucial actor, often dealing with the facilitation of recruitment and the adequate adaptation of working practices. Finally, the discussion also focused on health and occupational safety.

Further information on the conference can be found on this page. The programme of upcoming MoLSA events under the Czech Presidency is available here.