

EU

AFRICA

ROUNDTABLE ON AFRICA-EU RELATIONS

Africa's employment challenges

ZOOM DIALOGUE ON 8 SEPTEMBER 2021, 16:00–17:30

INVITATION

The poverty and employment crises on the African continent are accelerating to a worrying extent. The Covid-19 pandemic further highlights how fragile the situation is for most people in sub-Saharan Africa. Proposals to help eradicate both crises through growth, improving business environments or increasing foreign direct investment are numerous. However, many proposals and existing policies – also promoted by the EU – do not live up to the expected impact. High growth does not go hand in hand with more and better jobs and neither does it cause the expected easing in the labour markets. Thus, job opportunities are continuously lacking and, consequently, social challenges are on the rise.

In our next roundtable on EU-Africa relations, we would like to discuss the shortcomings of existing policy interventions around economic development and job creation as well as strategies for much-needed reforms. The discussion will be kicked-off by **Prof. Dr. em. Robert Kappel** who will present his recent study on Africa's employment challenges.

With this roundtable we hope to contribute to the development of a comprehensive EU policy approach on the African employment challenges.

English-German interpretation will be provided.

PROGRAMME

16:00 TECHNICAL INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME

- › Daniela Iller, Policy Officer, FES EU Office
- › Miriam-Lena Horn, Trade Policy Advisor to Joachim Schuster MEP

16:10 OPENING SPEECH

- › Joachim Schuster MEP, Member of the Committee on International Trade

16:20 INPUTS

- › Prof. Dr. em. Robert Kappel, Institute of African Studies at the University of Leipzig and Postgraduate Programme »small enterprise promotion and training«

16:40 OPEN DISCUSSION



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