The EIB Institute is pleased to announce the following seminar:

The Case for a European Social Union: From Muddling Through to a Sense of Common Purpose

When:
March 5th, 2015
13.00 - 14.00

Where:
EIB, East Building
EKI 4226

Speaker:
Frank Vandenbroucke,
Professor at KU Leuven, Belgium

Prof. Vandenbroucke will argue in favour of the need for and desirability of a European Social Union (ESU). Such a Social Union would support national welfare states at a systemic level in some of their key functions and guide the substantive development of those states — via general social standards and objectives, leaving the ways and means of social policy to Member States — on the basis of an operational definition of ‘the European social model’.

The seminar will discuss the rationale and motivation for an ESU and consider the specific case of eurozone countries, focusing on the need for a ‘visible hand’, pursuing a symmetric coordination of wage policies, as well as introducing arguments applying to the EU as a whole, focusing on the ‘balancing act’ needed between international openness and the pan-European solidarity that this implies, and domestic social cohesion. The presentation will also link the idea of a Social Union to current debates on social policy, such as the desirable level of public investment in education, or need for instruments such as minimum wages and minimum income protection.

All staff are welcome
A sandwich lunch will be provided, starting at 12:30.

This seminar is free of charge, but registration is mandatory by email by 27 February 2015 at events.eibinstitute@eib.org