# Session 6: Searching for a new economic equilibrium

Key issue at stake when negotiating CLAs





# **Concessions in CLAs**

### **Trade Unions**

- Wage freezes
- Wage decreases for civil servants

#### Employers

- Hiring new staff on full-time basis;
- Hiring new staff on the basis of contracts eligible to social security (no selfemployed)
- Avoiding compulsory redundancies
- Avoiding hiring staff on 0-hour contracts
- Avoiding collective dismissals



### **Trade-offs**

### **Examples of trade-offs reflected in CLAs**

Employment security existing staff versus lower conditions new staff

Maintenance labour conditions existing staff versus forced redundancies

Wage freezes and decreases versus increase employment levels

• Discussion: Which trade-offs did you encounter?



## Limitations to negotiating trade-offs

- LAW: Employment protection legislation and other rules governing the labour market
- TIMING: CLAs are often amended older CLAs
- REPUTATION: Quality services delivered by a secure & trustworthy institution



# Evolution of social models at NPOs Innovation at NPOs

NPOs as public sector organisations with civil servants NPOs as commercial organisations with market-related labour conditions

The future?

# Broader trends on European labour markets



# The future?

### Key issues:

- A variety of social change levers deployed across Europe
- A race to the bottom?
- Wake up calls from trade unions from across the EU on recent developments
- Dependence on business strategy: The more diversified the company, the better restructuring (<u>continuous adaptation?!</u>) can take place

"We're in this together!"

The bottom line is: To treat people fairly and decently!



# A positive note

- Staff-levels have already been brought in line with market circumstances in many countries (to maintain competitive)
- Working conditions have been adapted to enhance efficiency (flexibilisation & variabilisation)
- At the same time new types of services are provided: new opportunities for companies!
- New skills are needed for these services
- Opportunities for <u>young (new)</u> staff!



Expansion of labour standards necessary to maintain and attract skilled labour

### Thank you for your attention!



# Factors determining the evolution of social models

- NPOs transformed into commercial service providers providing different ranges of new services
- Hence needs in terms of staff requirements and restructuring differs
  between NPOs



There is not a single social model applicable to NPOs

- NPOs reduced staff-levels already in line with market circumstances (i.e. to maintain competitive)
- At the same time NPOs need staff to provide new services
- Skills-requirements differ strongly
- Expansion of labour standards necessary to maintain and attract skilled labour

