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Abstract: In this short paper, I consider the important initiatives taken in 2017 by the European Commission w.r.t. the social dimension of the EU. I see them as signaling a paradigm shift, at least within the European Commission. However, at the moment of writing important questions are still pending, both w.r.t. the actual delivery and the underlying conception of the EU's role in social policy. I add some suggestions for priority initiatives.

Keywords: European Union, social policy, European Pillar of Social Rights, Social Europe