

## **EU Social Inclusion Strategy in the context of “Europe 2020”: Potential and Limits**

### **Abstract**

The EU Social Inclusion process launched in Lisbon in 2000 came to an end in 2010. Thus there is currently much policy debate about what role efforts to prevent and reduce poverty and social exclusion will play in the EU’s agenda for the next decade, “Europe 2020”. Against this background, the aim of this paper is two-fold. First, to critically examine the EU’s approach to date to combating poverty and social exclusion through the operation of the Open Method of Coordination in social protection and social inclusion. Second, on the basis of this critical assessment, to discuss the potential and limits of the new EU project “Europe 2020” for building a stronger Social Inclusion Strategy.