**Press release – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**
**23 November 2026, Brussels**

# European Retirement Week opens as EU pension reforms enter decisive phase

**Brussels, 23 November 2026** – European Retirement Week opened today as policymakers and the pensions sector gathered in Brussels at a pivotal moment for Europe's efforts to strengthen supplementary pensions and improve retirement outcomes.

The sixth edition of European Retirement Week kicked off today, 23 November, with a breakfast event in Brussels, bringing together policymakers, industry representatives, and stakeholders. The event featured keynote contributions from Commissioner Maria Luís Albuquerque (link to speech), alongside a panel discussion with representatives from EIOPA and other leading voices in the pensions community.

The launch event marks the beginning of a series of discussions organised by 14 European associations from 23 November to 1 December.

This year's European Retirement Week comes as EU work on supplementary pensions moves into an important new phase. Following the publication of the European Commission's Supplementary Pensions Package last year, the European Parliament is now considering the reviews of the Pan-European Personal Pension Product (PEPP) and the IORP II Directive, ahead of negotiations with EU Member States.

Europe's ageing population, longer life expectancy and mounting pressure on public pension systems and budgets underline the need to strengthen occupational and personal pension provision. Increasing participation in supplementary pensions can help people build more adequate retirement incomes while also supporting long-term investment in Europe's economy.

Throughout the week, participating associations will host a broad range of events examining different dimensions of the pensions challenge, from retirement adequacy and financial literacy to workplace pensions, auto-enrolment, and long-term savings.

The full programme is available on the European Retirement Week website.

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European Retirement Week

**Notes to editors**

European Retirement Week is organised by 14 European associations:

- The Association for Financial Markets in Europe (AFME)
- AGE Platform Europe
- BETTER FINANCE
- Cross Border Benefits Alliance-Europe (CBBA-Europe)
- The European Association of Paritarian Institutions – AEIP
- The European Banking Federation
- The European Public Real Estate Association (EPRA)
- The European Fund and Asset Management Association (EFAMA)
- The European Tracking Service on Pensions (ETS)
- The Federation of European Securities Exchanges (FESE)
- The European Association for Investors in Non-Listed Real Estate Vehicles (INREV).
- Insurance Europe
- Invest Europe
- PensionsEurope