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Bart Vanhercke, PhD in Social Science, has been Director at the European Social Observatory since 2010. He is therefore in charge of the broad research strategy, the internal organisation of the team, managing the budget with Françoise Verri, and overseeing the OSE communication strategy. His current research focuses on the social dimension of European economic governance (including the EU's economic surveillance of national healthcare systems) and the European Pillar of Social Rights. He has been the lead editor of the annual OSE/ETUI book on 'Social policy in the European Union: state of play' since 2016. Earlier research experience dealt with the Europeanization of domestic social inclusion, health care and pensions policies through different EU policy instruments and the social challenges of EMU and EU enlargement. Bart Vanhercke was appointed, for the academic year 2013-2014, Associate Professor at the Institute for European Studies of Saint-Louis University (FUSL). In March 2016, he obtained his PhD (cum laude) at the Amsterdam Institute for Social Science Research (AISSR) of the University of Amsterdam. He was appointed Policy Fellow at the Institute for the Study of Labour (IZA Berlin) in November 2015. He was appointed associate member of the academic staff at the Research Institute for Work and Society (HIVA, KULeuven) in June 2016.

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