



Press Release

PensionsEurope opinion on the research on the quality and outcome of pension savings – Comparing apples and pears

PensionsEurope published its [opinion](#) on the research on the quality and outcome of pension savings today on 26 April 2017. Particularly, PensionsEurope remarks are addressed to Better Finance and its report “Pension savings – the real return” that aims to show the real returns of pension savings in various countries.

Janwillem Bouma, Chair of PensionsEurope, said:

“PensionsEurope welcomes the research on the quality of occupational and personal pensions and the outcome of pension savings. In PensionsEurope paper, we highlight numerous specificities that the research should take into account in order to give a realistic picture of the quality and outcome of pension savings. If ignoring these specificities, the research faces a serious challenge of comparing apples and pears.”

In its paper, PensionsEurope outlines some of the challenges of Better Finance report and provides guidance how to improve the methodology.

Matti Leppälä, Secretary General/CEO of PensionsEurope:

“Together with our Member Associations, PensionsEurope is willing and ready to cooperate with Better Finance in order to improve the methodology of its report. Particularly, we invite Better Finance to use the data and time periods which are consistent and comparable, focus on both the accumulation and payout phase, and explore the benefits in addition to the costs.”

The country-specific comments from PensionsEurope Member Associations on Better Finance report are included in four Annexes of PensionsEurope paper.

About PensionsEurope

PensionsEurope represents national associations of pension funds and similar institutions for workplace pensions. Some members operate purely individual pension schemes. PensionsEurope Members are large institutional investors representing the buy-side on the financial markets.

PensionsEurope has **24 member associations** in 19 EU Member States and 3 other European countries with significant – in size and relevance – workplace pension systems¹.

PensionsEurope member organisations cover different types of workplace pensions for over **110 million people**. Through its Member Associations PensionsEurope represents more than **€ 4 trillion of assets** managed for future pension payments. In addition, many members of PensionsEurope also cover personal pensions, which are connected with an employment relation.

PensionsEurope also has **25 Corporate and Supporter Members** which are various service providers and stakeholders that work with IORPs.

PensionsEurope has established a **Central & Eastern European Countries Forum (CEEC Forum)** to discuss issues common to pension systems in that region.

PensionsEurope has established a **Multinational Advisory Group (MAG)** which delivers advice on pension issues to PensionsEurope. It provides a collective voice and information sharing for the expertise and opinions of multinationals.

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¹ EU Member States: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Sweden, UK. Non-EU Member States: Iceland, Norway, Switzerland.