



Submission to the Tripartite Social Summit

20 March 2014

From 'what' to 'how': five specific measures from EUROCHAMBRES to stimulate Europe's Industrial Renaissance

- 1. Skills:** integrate the notion of work-based learning in vocational education & training programmes across the EU, notably through strengthening apprenticeship schemes and ensuring that they are appealing and accessible to small & medium sized enterprises (SMEs).
- 2. Markets:** reinforce existing internal market rules through a more rigorous application of the principle of mutual recognition and through improving support tools for SMEs (points of single contact, Enterprise Europe Network etc)
- 3. Energy:** ensure complementary climate, energy and industrial policy objectives and translate them into practical measures for the real economy, such as hands-on energy efficiency and energy management support programmes for SMEs.
- 4. Regulatory reform:** reduce unnecessary bureaucracy and enhance the industrial competitiveness proofing of policy measures by strengthening impact assessments – at EU and member state level - and giving a heavy weighting to the consideration of European competitive advantage vis-à-vis companies in third countries.
- 5. Finance:** swiftly revive interest in the SME Initiative - which has considerable potential to create synergy and common approaches in the provision of financial instruments for smaller businesses – by clarifying its functioning to member states and strongly encouraging their participation.

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All our position papers can be downloaded from www.eurochambres.eu/content/default.asp?PageID=145

EUROCHAMBRES – The Association of European Chambers of Commerce and Industry represents over 20 million enterprises in Europe – 98% of which are SMEs – through members in 43 countries and a European network of 2000 regional and local Chambers.