

## **EUROCHAMBRES sets out 12 ‘Entrepreneurial Rights’ at 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary event**

EUROCHAMBRES, the Association of European Chambers of Commerce and Industry, today presented its *Declaration of Entrepreneurial Rights* to the EU institutions. Bringing to a climax an afternoon of discussions on markets, entrepreneurship and skills at the association’s 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary event, the Declaration sets out 12 pre-conditions for EU entrepreneurs and businesses to thrive, prosper and compete internationally.

### **EUROCHAMBRES delivers, now policy-makers must too**

At a meeting in January 2018, EUROCHAMBRES President Christoph Leitl stressed to European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker that the ‘social triple A’ objective underpinning the Pillar of Social Rights could not be achieved without also ensuring an entrepreneurial triple A rating. President Juncker urged EUROCHAMBRES to expand on this, which has resulted in today’s *Declaration of Entrepreneurial Rights*.

Speaking during today’s EUROCHAMBRES 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary event, President Leitl explained: “Chambers are not shy of talking about entrepreneurs’ rights and nor should policy-makers. This Declaration captures the strong feeling across the European Chamber network that the needs of entrepreneurs cannot be taken for granted and must be central to policy processes, starting at EU level.”

The Declaration also highlights the important socio-economic role of entrepreneurs: “It is superficial to view entrepreneurs merely as job providers and tax generators. They are also educators, innovators, creators, community members and much more”, President Leitl added.

### **60 years of connecting business to Europe...and plenty more to come**

EUROCHAMBRES was the first business organisation established at European level following the signing of the Treaty of Rome. From its six original members, the association has expanded progressively and now encompasses 44 national and 2 transnational Chamber organisations from across Europe. This represents a network of around 1.700 regional and local chambers, representing over 20 million businesses, mostly small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs).

“Just as our businesses evolve, shaping and adapting to market developments, so has EUROCHAMBRES evolved with the process of European economic cooperation, both within and beyond the EU. We will continue to do so as new opportunities and challenges emerge for Europe’s small, medium and large businesses,” concluded President Leitl.

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Note: The *Declaration of Entrepreneurial Rights* can be accessed via this link: [bit.ly/12rights](http://bit.ly/12rights). In addition to President Juncker, the paper will be transmitted to other leading EU policy-makers and form a key element in EUROCHAMBRES’ proposals to the institutions for the next legislative term.

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