

EU Budget for 2019: More EU funding for growth and youth

EUROCHAMBRES President, Christoph Leitl, welcomes the agreement reached on the EU budget for 2019.

The European Parliament adopted today the agreement on the EU budget for 2019. *"The business community welcomes this timely agreement, as it provides planning security for the year 2019 to recipients of EU funds"*.

EUROCHAMBRES applauds the continued focus on growth and young people, achieved through the boost given to COSME, crucial to support SMEs, through an increase of 3.7% on 2018, Erasmus+ (19% more than 2018) and Horizon 2020 (+12.3%).

Now eyes are set on the ongoing negotiations on the Multiannual Financial Framework for the 2021-2017 period. *"Growth, SMEs and youth are key priorities for Europe. As such, they must continue to be adequately supported in the next financial period"*, stressed President Leitl. *"It is therefore crucial to secure an agreement on the tripling of the budget for COSME as well as to increase the budget dedicated to VET within Erasmus"* –he continued. *"The SMEs dimension should also be more prominent within Horizon Europe"*.

Once again, President Leitl highlighted the importance of reaching an agreement on the next MFF by the end of 2019 to ensure that the programmes are funded without delay.

Additional information:

- EP Press release on the approval of the EU budget 2019: <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/press-room/20181205IPR20938/eu-budget-2019-approved-focus-on-the-young-innovation-and-migration>

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