

I Press Release

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## Sibiu Summit: Europe must move forward together

EUROCHAMBRES will take part in the Subiu Summit and reiterates its interest to contribute in the exchange of views and challenges for a common future of Europe.

Speaking before the Europe Day Informal Summit of EU leaders in Sibiu, EUROCHAMBRES President **Christoph Leitl** has stressed the need for the EU to move forward together in order to respond to global challenges and seize opportunities. Echoing his recent letter to European Council President, Donald Tusk, President **Leitl** underlined the pivotal importance of progress towards completion of the single market.

"The EU's evolution over the last 60 years has been incredible, but at the same time it has been incremental. There are no short-cuts and we must continue on this same path. Fundamentally, the EU27 must move forward together. Europe doesn't need grand statements, it needs tangible progress and the next EU Strategic Agenda must set out a roadmap for such progress. At the core of this must be the single market, which for many businesses – particularly SMEs – still flatters to deceive. A solid single market ensuring genuine free movement will give our economy much needed impulse. It will also provide a strong basis for the EU to lead global responses to critical issues like free and fair trade, climate change, resource efficiency and migration.", President Leitl stated.

Meanwhile, EUROCHAMBRES Future of Europe Committee co-chair, **Vladimír Dlouhý**, is attending the Sibiu conference taking place in conjunction with the Informal Summit. Responding to the recent assertion of Emmanuel Macron that Europe is not just an economic market, President Dlouhy will argue that the EU is nothing without its Single Market.

**President Leitl** also drew the link with the forthcoming European Parliament elections: "*The Chamber network is working hard to encourage citizens to vote later this month and to vote for candidates who are committed to a united EU that will enable Europe to fulfil its potential. EU leaders must also contribute by conveying a positive, unified message in Sibiu that gives clear reason for optimism about the next five years and about the future of Europe.*"

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**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 44 countries and a European network of 1700 regional and local Chambers.