

**PRESS RELEASE**

## **Services Directive: 8 suggestions for the Commission**

In a letter sent to all of the EU Commissioners today, EUROCHAMBRES has urged the College to come forward with a workable and effective Services Directive that will deliver the fully functioning internal market in services that was made a priority at last week's Spring Summit.

Arnaldo Abruzzini, Secretary General of EUROCHAMBRES, said: *"On 4 April, the Commission is due to present a revised draft of the Directive... The College has an opportunity to make a real difference to the outcome on this vital piece of legislation by improving and fine-tuning the Directive following the Parliament's vote."*

The European Chamber network has outlined the following 8 priorities for the re-drafting process:

1. Carry out a full **impact assessment**;
2. Improve **clarity and legal certainty**. In particular, applicable law concerning the right to provide services on a cross-border basis must be clearly stated. Businesses need a clear legal basis to protect them from arbitrary protectionism;
3. **Limit and clarify derogation and exceptions**;
4. Re-introduce **commitment to pre-notify** any new regulation that might be incompatible with the Internal Market;
5. Create a convention on the **enforcement of administrative decisions**;
6. Seek a workable solution on the **posting of workers**;
7. Propose an **ex-post assessment** of the Directive;
8. **Resist efforts to further water down the Directive.**

Mr Abruzzini concluded: *"It is vital for the future prosperity of EU economy that we get this Directive right and create a genuine internal market for services in Europe. On behalf of over 2,000 Chambers of Commerce and 18 million business members, we wish the College great success in finding the right solution to this contentious issue."*

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EUROCHAMBRES has member organisations in 44 countries representing a network of 2,000 regional and local Chambers with over 18 million member companies.