

Informal Competitiveness Council: specific recommendations to cultivate entrepreneurship

Ahead of the 18-19 July Informal Competitiveness Council, EUROCHAMBRES and the EFMD (the European Foundation for Management Development) sent a joint letter to ministers encouraging them to define a short-list of key actions that would stimulate and cultivate entrepreneurship across the EU.

They also provided specific recommendations, including:

- Embed the key competence 'entrepreneurship' into primary and secondary level education curricula;
- Ensure that all young people have at least one 'entrepreneurial experience' (e.g. mini-company, local community project etc) before they leave secondary school;
- Integrate entrepreneurship education into vocational education and training (VET);
- Ensure that entrepreneurship is a mandatory requirement in all technical studies.

Competitiveness ministers will discuss the issue with European Commission Vice President Antonio Tajani in the context of his forthcoming communication on entrepreneurship. EUROCHAMBRES and the EFMD insist that this new communication must complement rather than duplicate existing EU initiatives in this field, notably the Small Business Act.

**The joint EUROCHAMBRES – EFMD submission is available on
www.eurochambres.eu/content/default.asp?PageID=1&DocID=4591**

EUROCHAMBRES – The Association of European Chambers of Commerce and Industry represents over 20 million enterprises in Europe – 93% of which are SMEs – through members in 45 countries and a European network of 2000 regional and local Chambers. www.eurochambres.eu

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EFMD (the European Foundation for Management Development) is a leading international network of business schools, companies and consultancies (770 members across 82 countries) at the forefront of raising the standards of management education and development globally. www.efmd.org

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