



Businesses take over the European Parliament

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European Parliament of Enterprises - Second edition

Today, over 700 entrepreneurs from all sizes and sectors of business and coming from 45 European countries, will gather in the Hemicycle of the European Parliament in Brussels to constitute the second European Parliament of Enterprises, organised by EUROCHAMBRES and its network of Chambers of Commerce

Like with the first edition of the event, which took place in 2008, entrepreneurs will debate and vote on a range of business-related topics face to face with the highest representatives of the European Institutions.

“The aim of this event - the largest one giving the floor directly to entrepreneurs - is to make the businesses’ voice heard on the many crucial dossiers that will be on the table in the coming months,” said Alessandro Barberis, President of EUROCHAMBRES. *“It will hopefully also contribute to greater mutual understanding between the worlds of business and politics; worlds which too often appear far apart, but which are, of course, inextricably linked.”*

Jerzy Buzek, President of the European Parliament, and **Herman Van Rompuy**, President of the European Council, will open the event together with the President of EUROCHAMBRES **Alessandro Barberis**. **Vincent Van Quickenborne**, Belgian Minister of Economy and Reform, will be present at the closing session.

The European Parliament of Enterprises will run in three sessions, each addressing a series of issues of current concern to businesses and inviting representatives of the European Parliament and the European Commission to respond to businesses directly.

- **Session 1: “Conditions”** will address the economic crisis, the EU’s SME policy, the digital agenda, collective redress and consumer rights. With **Antonio Tajani**, Vice President of the European Commission in charge of Industry and Entrepreneurship and **Pervenche Berès**, Member of the European Parliament and Chair of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs.
- **Session 2 “Resources”** will address late payments, education, labour market, environment and energy issues. With **Herbert Reul**, Member of the European Parliament and Chairman of the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy, and **Edit Herczog**, Member of the European Parliament and Vice-President of the European Parliament SME Intergroup
- **Session 3 “Market”** will address company law, international relations, trade agreements, market access. With **Karel De Gucht**, EU Commissioner in charge of Trade and **Malcolm Harbour**, Member of the European Parliament and Chairman of the Committee on Internal Market and Consumer Protection.

EUROCHAMBRES will follow-up to entrepreneurs’ votes in every institutional circumstance where it has an opportunity of representing the businesses’ voice.

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