

## Horizon 2020 reaction

*“We draw many positives from Horizon 2020. We particularly applaud the introduction of the new SME instrument and the fact that 15% of the budget for societal challenges and the enabling and industrial technologies will be devoted to small and medium sized enterprises. We also welcome the shift to support for the whole innovation cycle, especially the stronger focus on commercialisation and access to markets.”*

*“However, precisely how SMEs can access the additional innovation funds remains unclear and this has been a regular Achilles heel of the framework programmes. The new single entry points seem a step in the right direction, but if they are genuinely to simplify the life of SMEs, such measures need to be coordinated with related mechanisms at EU, national and regional level, not least the Commission’s new Programme for the Competitiveness of Enterprises and SMEs,”* said Arnaldo Abruzzini, EUROCHAMBRES’ Secretary General, in reaction to the adoption by the Commission of its Horizon 2020 research and innovation funding programme.

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