

**SAVE THE DATE!****14 October 2008: European Parliament of Enterprises**  
**775 entrepreneurs take over European Parliament**

On 14 October, the first ever “European Parliament of Enterprises” (EPE) will take place in Brussels.

750 entrepreneurs from the 27 EU Member States will gather in the hemicycle of the European Parliament to debate and vote on specific business-related issues, just like real Members of Parliament would do! 24 entrepreneurs from 18 non-EU countries\* will also attend.

This unique event will allow the European business community to have its say on crucial topics currently debated at EU level, and by which it is directly affected. Pierre Simon, President of EUROCHAMBRES, said: *“We want to demonstrate that businesses exist and are ready to take an active role in the decision-making process. The aim is to help institutions better understand the concerns and challenges that companies are daily confronted with, and ultimately build a more business-friendly Europe.”*

Topics are:

1. Internal Market & Market Access
2. Energy & Environment
3. Education & Entrepreneurship

The entrepreneurs’ votes will then be presented to the French Presidency of the EU as well as to other European and National institutions.

The sessions will be opened by Hans-Gert Pöttering, President of the European Parliament, who gave his personal patronage to the event. The EPE also benefits from the support of the European Commission, of the French Presidency of the EU and of the European Economic and Social Committee.

The event is organised on the occasion of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of EUROCHAMBRES, the Association of European Chambers of Commerce and Industry, in cooperation with its network of National Chambers of Commerce and Industry.

All members of the press are invited to attend. Please contact the numbers below for further information on registration procedures.

\* Non EU countries= Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia, Croatia, FYR Macedonia, Georgia, Iceland, Israel, Moldova, Montenegro, Norway, Russia, Serbia, Switzerland, Turkey and Ukraine.

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