

EU-Ukraine Summit: Time for disclosure

On the day of the EU-Ukraine summit in Evian (France), EUROCHAMBRES expresses, on one hand, its full support to the two parties' intention of strengthening bilateral relations.

"This year's summit is expected to give a boost to resolutions for a new, enhanced framework agreement, as well as negotiations for a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between the EU and Ukraine", EUROCHAMBRES' President Pierre Simon anticipated. *"Both are crucial for the future of bilateral political and economic relations, the stability of Ukraine and its convergence with EU standards,"* continued Mr Simon.

On the other hand EUROCHAMBRES regrets the lack of transparency on the state of negotiations between the two parties.

Despite the boisterous announcement of the FTA talks launch by EU Trade Commissioner Peter Mandelson in February, shortly after Ukraine's WTO accession, no information was released on the three rounds of negotiations which have followed already.

It is now time for disclosure. EUROCHAMBRES calls upon EU and Ukrainian leaders to have a more transparent conduction of such FTA talks.

EUROCHAMBRES, with the support of its member the Ukraine Chamber of Commerce, will keep following closely all future developments and envisage the creation of a Chamber Platform to monitor and exchange views on the future framework of EU-Ukraine economic relations.

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