

European Recovery Programme must be brought forward

EUROCHAMBRES President, Christoph Leidl, participated in a telephone conversation with European Commissioner for Economy, Paolo Gentiloni, today to discuss the European Recovery Programme. President Leidl emphasized the need to act quickly.

"It does not make sense to start a European reconstruction programme until after many companies have died and many jobs have been lost. The European Union must bring forward the Recovery Programme announced for early 2021 to autumn this year", said Leidl.

EUROCHAMBRES President also mentioned the need to coordinate the tourism season at European level in order to avoid further damage within the sector. In addition, the need to support companies' liquidity was addressed with Commissioner Gentiloni, and President Leidl called for approval of an increase in the state aid limit in response to the crisis. "It would be an important signal if the so-called de minimis rule for state aid were temporarily increased from 200,000 to 500,000 euros," explained Leidl.

Member of the Board of the Association of German Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Wolfgang Grenke, the President of CCI France, Pierre Goguet, and the President of the Chamber of Commerce of Bozen/Italy, Michl Ebner, also took part in the discussion with Commissioner Gentiloni. Other issues raised included restrictions to free movement, safeguarding financial liquidity, fiscal simplification and tax evasion, on which President Leidl concluded "We need fair taxation for everyone".

Further information: Mr. Ben Butters, Tel. +32 2 282 08 50, butters@eurochambres.eu
Press contact: Mrs. Karen Albuquerque, Tel. +32 2 282 08 62, albuquerque@eurochambres.eu
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