

Economic stakes could not be higher for Germany EU Council Presidency 2020

EUROCHAMBRES, the association of European Chambers of Commerce & Industry, has underlined the need to place the economic recovery at the core of the German Presidency of the EU Council, which starts tomorrow.

Despite gloomy 2020 economic forecasts and worrying feedback from the Chamber network, EUROCHAMBRES believes that there is scope for a swift recovery if the right policy decisions are taken and delivered quickly. Addressing the German Chancellor, EUROCHAMBRES President Christoph Leitl said: *“Chancellor Merkel, 20 million companies employing 140 million people are relying on you, supporting you, but also reminding you of your responsibility for the rescue and recovery of the European economy. Good luck, Angela Merkel, we are by your side!”*

The next six months will reveal whether the EU is able to respond to the crisis in a timely and effective manner. The EU recovery fund and long-term budget must start reaching European businesses and citizens as soon as possible if they are to help the economy absorb the legacy of months of dramatically restricted activity.

Market access is another important lever for the revival and will be vital to the twin digital and ecological transition. President Leitl said: *“Chambers look to the Presidency to ensure that the functioning of the single market is restored and enhanced, and that more is done to help our smaller businesses capitalise on opportunities beyond their domestic market.”*

Further information: Mr Ben Butters, Tel. +32 2 282 08 71, butters@eurochambres.eu
Press contact: Mrs Karen Albuquerque, Tel. +32 2 282 08 62, albuquerque@eurochambres.eu
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