



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT  
of ENTERPRISES



Businesses take over the European Parliament

Brussels 14 October 2010

# FACT SHEET

European Parliament of Enterprises  
THURSDAY 14 OCTOBER 2010  
From 2.30pm to 6.30pm  
European Parliament Hemicycle, Brussels



EUROCHAMBRES



Under the High Patronage of  
Mr. Jerzy Buzek,  
President of the European  
Parliament



Under the High Patronage of  
Mr. Herman Van Rompuy,  
President of the European Council



Under the patronage of  
Mr. José Manuel Barroso,  
President of the European  
Commission



With the support of the Belgian  
Presidency of the Council of the  
European Union

Media partners:





## EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT OF ENTERPRISES®

The European Parliament of Enterprises 2010 (EPE) is an exceptional event organised by EUROCHAMBRES following the success of its first edition in 2008.

751 entrepreneurs, mainly from SMEs, coming from 27 EU and 24 participants from 19 non-EU EUROCHAMBRES members will take part in it.

Businesses will debate topical issues and vote directly on resolutions which will be presented to the Belgian Presidency of the European Union.

The European Parliament of Enterprises 2010 will take place in the hemicycle of the European Parliament (Brussels) on Thursday 14 October 2010 from 2.30 pm to 6.30 pm.

### WHY?

The EPE will recreate a parliamentary session and give the floor to European entrepreneurs. This highlights the “economic democracy” of the Chambers of Commerce and Industry through their representation and their structure.

The EPE will also bring businesses face-to-face with decision-makers of the European Parliament and European Commission and thereby enhance mutual understanding.

### HOW IS THE EVENT ORGANISED?

EPE National Coordinators are appointed in all national Chambers of EUROCHAMBRES’ member countries. The coordinators are in charge of recruiting the businesses, raising awareness and helping them to prepare for the debates. These businesses will subsequently form a “permanent sample” for EUROCHAMBRES to gather feedback and data on the situation of SMEs in Europe.

The European Parliament of Enterprises is held every two years.

### WHO IS PARTICIPATING?

751 entrepreneurs from the EU and 24 from non-EU countries will participate in the event.

For those coming from the 27 EU Member States, the allocation of seats is based on the European Parliament configuration according to the Lisbon Treaty, with a total of 751 seats. These entrepreneurs will debate on the specific topics and vote.

For those from the 19 non-EU EUROCHAMBRES members, 24 seats have been allocated on the basis of their contributions to EUROCHAMBRES and their status with respect to the European Union. These entrepreneurs will take part as observers.

In both cases, the delegation will, as much as possible, reflect the make-up of the national economy (size, sector, location).

The seating of business delegations in the hemicycle is done according to the alphabetical order of country names (order of European protocol) by row.

The rest of the seats are occupied by the press, EUROCHAMBRES and Chambers invitees.



#### WHICH TOPICS WILL BE DISCUSSED?

After comparing the political priorities for 2010 put forward by the European Commission, the European Parliament, the Belgian Presidency and EUROCHAMBRES, three fields of interest for debate have been identified: **Conditions / Resources / Markets.**

EUROCHAMBRES is working with experts of the relevant European Parliament Committees, as well as the DGs of the European Commission. Specific proposals will emerge from these exchanges and from discussions within the EUROCHAMBRES working groups.

#### PROGRAMME

The national Chambers, leading their delegations, will organise National Programmes in Brussels. This will allow national delegates to meet Commission officials, members of the European Parliament, their governments' permanent representatives and, of course, other EPE delegates.

For the delegations not planning to have National Programmes, the Morning Conference will be organised by EUROCHAMBRES.

The European Parliament of Enterprises will take place in the afternoon. The gathering of the national delegations will be devoted to debating the issues and holding votes (three sessions - 1 hour per session). During the sessions, the entrepreneurs will discuss issues linked to the concerns of enterprises and will vote on recommendations to be presented to the Belgian Presidency of the EU.



Businesses take over the European Parliament Brussels 14 October 2010

## PROGRAMME (draft version)

from 12:00pm

WELCOME COFFEE and REGISTRATION

2.30pm

OPENING SESSION by

Mr. Jerzy BUZEK , President of the European Parliament  
Mr. Herman VAN ROMPUY, President of the European Council  
Mr. José Manuel BARROSO, President of the European Commission (video message)  
Mr. Alessandro BARBERIS, President of EUROCHAMBRES

3.00pm

FIRST SESSION - CONDITIONS

**Presentation** of the topic through a video clip

**Debate** between the entrepreneurs and the representatives of the EU Institutions:

Mr. Antonio TAJANI, Vice President of the European Commission in charge of Industry and Entrepreneurship

Mrs. Pervenche BERÈS, Member of the European Parliament and the Chair of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

**Vote of the entrepreneurs** on resolutions

4.00pm

SECOND SESSION - RESOURCES

**Presentation** of the topic through a video clip

**Debate** between the entrepreneurs and the representatives of the EU Institutions:

Mr. Herbert REUL, Member of the European Parliament and the Chairman of the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

Ms. Edit HERCZOG, Member of the European Parliament and Vice-President of the European SME Intergroup

**Vote of the entrepreneurs** on resolutions

5.00pm

THIRD SESSION - MARKETS

**Presentation** of the topic through a video clip

**Debate** between the entrepreneurs and the representatives of the EU Institutions:

Mr. Karel De GUCHT, EU Commissioner in charge of Trade

Mr. Malcolm HARBOUR, Member of the European Parliament and the Chairman of the Committee on Internal Market and Consumer Protection

**Vote of the entrepreneurs** on resolutions

6.00pm

CLOSING SESSION by

Mr. Alessandro BARBERIS, President of EUROCHAMBRES

Mr. Vincent VAN QUICKENBORNE, Minister of Economy and Reform, Belgium

6.30pm

Networking Cocktail

(entrepreneurs and representatives of the EU Institutions)

9.00pm

End of the event



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT  
of ENTERPRISES



Businesses take over the European Parliament

Brussels 14 October 2010

## CONTACTS AT EUROCHAMBRES

Irina TIKHONOVA - Tel +32 2 282 08 58 - [tikhonova@eurochambres.eu](mailto:tikhonova@eurochambres.eu)

Guendalina COMINOTTI, Press and Communications Officer - Tel +32 2 282 08 66 - [cominotti@eurochambres.eu](mailto:cominotti@eurochambres.eu)

### EUROCHAMBRES

Avenue des Arts 19 A/D

B - 1000 Brussels

[www.eurochambres.eu](http://www.eurochambres.eu)



EUROCHAMBRES



Under the High Patronage of  
Mr. Jerzy Buzek,  
President of the European  
Parliament



Under the High Patronage of  
Mr. Herman Van Rompuy,  
President of the European Council



Under the patronage of  
Mr. José Manuel Barroso,  
President of the European  
Commission



With the support of the Belgian  
Presidency of the Council of the  
European Union

Media partners:

