

Chamber Act !

Europe's Chambers of Commerce and Industry

So much more than Europe's biggest business network

The global business environment has changed dramatically over recent decades. European businesses must now compete in a complex, rapidly changing world economy. In facing these new global social and economic opportunities and challenges, our businesses need the support of their Chambers of Commerce and Industry more than ever.

Chambers are the oldest and largest business network in the world. We began at local level across Europe, driven by the needs and desires of businesses. Since then, we have worked to promote the prosperity of our towns or regions and to share expertise within our business communities.

As we have grown, our aims have developed to support businesses as they grasp new opportunities and tackle new challenges and to drive economic development not only at local, regional and national level, but also across the EU and internationally.

We represent a network of 1700 Chambers from across the breadth of Europe. This unparalleled coverage provides representation for 20 million businesses, of which 93% are SMEs and which employ 120 million people.

A unique force

Europe's Chambers are a unique force: supporting business growth across the whole continent. We offer much more than just a network for businesses.

- A powerful voice, representing business interests to public authorities at every level from local grassroots, through regional and national, to European and international
- Representation of business people by business people - Europe's Chambers are all run by members of their own business communities
- Efficient and effective management of services to the business community for public authorities, such as the issuing of trade and export documents.

Sharing the same vision

We share the same vision of access to a sustainable and competitive business environment for all our members:

... where legal, fiscal and administrative systems encourage entrepreneurship, responsible risk-taking, innovation and foreign investment

... where the movement of goods, services, capital and people within the EU single market is unrestricted

... where access to financial products for business creation, development and innovation is facilitated

... where highly educated, trained and motivated workforces can integrate new technologies and respond to evolving market needs

... where energy supply is affordable, sustainable and efficient

... where business opportunities are enhanced and encouraged with all EU, acceding and neighbouring countries

... where internationalisation is facilitated and extended beyond the EU in the spirit of free trade and open competition.

Improving conditions for business

We strive to improve the general conditions in which business operates. Everyday, across the whole of Europe, over 100,000 Chamber staffs are committed to providing a broad range of quality services to their members, from general economic and political information provision, to services tailored to unique circumstances:

- We keep our members up-to-date about forthcoming challenges and opportunities
- We support EU integration and the effective functioning of the EU single market
- We assist entrepreneurs, helping them to set up, grow and sustain their business activity
- We support skills development through provision and administration of training qualifications programmes from apprenticeship to master degree level
- We encourage our members' international growth through trade missions and customised support
- We develop leadership training to facilitate better, fairer business practices
- We encourage and support digital innovation
- We support EU projects to promote business relations and integration in acceding countries and neighbouring countries.

Upholding business interests

As we have evolved, we have acquired a deep knowledge of the needs and expectations of the business community. We have also developed the communication channels necessary to represent these needs and expectations to policy makers.

- We represent our members' interests to policy makers at every level; local to international
- We facilitate direct consultation between policy makers and those businesses most closely concerned in the development of their regions
- We draw upon the expertise, experience and resources across our European network to support and promote the competitiveness of the European economy.

Working for a better, fairer, more prosperous, more sustainable business environment

The network of European Chambers is both broad and deep. Its breadth allows us to represent the total interests of European business. Its depth is the incredible pool of knowledge and experience upon which we are able to draw. In combination this makes Europe's Chambers the most positive force for a better, fairer, more prosperous, more sustainable European business environment.