



## 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of EUROCHAMBRES Economic Forum

ROME, ITALY, 07-08 OCTOBER 2019

The 3rd edition of the EUROCHAMBRES Economic Forum (EEF 2019) will be hosted by UNIONCAMERE, on 7-8 October and it will take place in Rome, Italy.

This event will bring together 300 leaders of European national and local Chambers of Commerce & Industry and their experts to discuss how the **changing political and economic landscape** in Europe may affect the business community on the one hand, and **practical and concrete answers** from Chambers and their members on the other.

### EEF 2019 – NARRATIVE

The **upcoming new EU legislative term** will pave the way for the rapid transformation towards climate-neutral, circular and resource efficient industry. Global competitiveness will be relocated in a different plan where completion of the Single Market, removal of trade barriers and promotion of a fair global playing field for investment are consistent with the new reference framework and benefit from the opportunities created by this. Furthermore, social core EU's values will continue to drive growth and industrial transformation.

The new European Parliament and European Commission must be empowered and committed over the next five years to deliver policies that are jobs, growth and entrepreneur friendly, ensuring coherence between fast and inclusive transformation, global competitiveness and social inclusiveness.

In this context, Chambers must be proactive in driving change and effective in responding to change.

We have to **get engaged in key issues for entrepreneurs**, such as the skills shortages, the challenges to the multilateral trade system, digitalisation, climate change and scarce natural resources, the completion of the single market among others.



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The EEF 2019 will provide the opportunity to share **ideas, best practices, concrete experiences** and compare them so as to better respond to the common 21<sup>st</sup> century socio-economic trends and challenges that the network is facing.

This way, Chambers can develop inspired plans on how to make improvements, how to adapt others' specific practices to their own needs with the aim of increasing their performance.

The information gathered during these sessions will not only be relevant for the Chambers on an immediate practical level, but it will also serve a longer-term purpose: understanding what the Chambers' stance is towards the European Institutions, **what are their needs and how can these needs be fulfilled by the EU.**

This way, they can, together with EUROCHAMBRES, be empowered to advance their point of view and requests in front of the European Institutions. By taking initiative, the Chamber network can show itself as the main interlocutor representing entrepreneurs in front of the EU and have a stronger position in the dialogue with Institutions.

## EEF 2019 - TOPICS

During this two-day Forum, **2 rounds of 3 different parallel sessions** will take place and attendees will be able to choose what are the 2 topics they are more interested for participation. This allows, in the first place, to have smaller groups of discussion and, in the second place, it gives more possibility of choice as each Chamber has its own priorities, challenges and strengths.

The topics of these sessions are:

- **Financing the sustainable transition for SMEs & how Chambers can get involved**
- **Embracing digitalisation – Reinventing CCI's**
- **Let's close the skills gap!**
- **Go international – business opportunities beyond the EU**
- **Untapping Europe's entrepreneurial potential**
- **Business cross-borders – enforcing the Single Market**



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More specifically, during these sessions the discussion will focus on identifying the challenges for business under each one of the umbrella topics and on finding solutions for Chambers to tackle these issues.

Sessions are meant to provide practical examples, such as best and/or bad experiences on the subject to be shared among participants and concrete answers to the issues emerged in the discussion. Involvement of participants in the debate is therefore crucial for a successful outcome on this initiative.

Finally, a wrap-up conclusion with recommendations will follow at the end of each session and all these recommendations will be reported at the end of the event during the plenary session.

In addition to these parallel sessions, a broad plenary session '**The future of Europe and the future of European Chambers: inextricably linked?**' is scheduled right before the Conclusion plenary of the event. This space wants to gather together all participants to look at the upcoming future of Europe and of the Chambers and discuss together what are the envisaged challenges/opportunities that it offers.

The EUROCHAMBRES Economic Forum is the strategical meeting point of all European Chambers. Therefore, in addition to the discussion on key priorities for the Chamber network and to the exchange of lessons learned from each other experiences, an additional space is being dedicated exclusively to **European projects**.

As a follow-up on the Connecting European Chambers conference and on the broader Chamber+ initiative, the session '**Chamber+ corner: Pitch your idea!**' will be open to all Chambers who want to share an idea of project with the rest of the network, by giving a short pitch. In this very dynamic space Chambers will be able to share information and consequently to get on board other partners and team up on common projects. The time available for each pitch is 3 minutes so it is important to be brief and concise to convey the crucial information.

There will be 20 slots available for those who are interested in intervening in this special session on a first come, first served basis. If you want to book a timeslot for your project idea, click [here](#) to contact us by 30 August 2019.



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## EEF 2019 - PARTICIPANTS AND INVITED GUESTS

Representatives of local, regional and national Chambers from all corners of Europe and beyond are invited to join in this biannual gathering of Chambers leaders, senior decision-makers, chambers experts, influencers and opinion-formers.

Registrations will be available on the EEF 2019 dedicated [website](#), where all relevant information about the event will be published.



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