

"Together to create new growth"

"Social entrepreneurship & social economy: Developing a European ecosystem to unlock social innovation, growth and jobs"

Brussels, 18 November 2011

Charlemagne building, Rue de la Loi 170, Brussels / Meeting Room Alcide de Gasperi

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

The internal market is based on a "highly competitive social market economy", which reflects the trend towards inclusive, socially fairer and environmentally sustainable growth. New business models are being used, in which these societal concerns are taking precedence over the exclusive objective of financial profit. This trend must be reflected in the EU Single Market. A level playing field must be ensured and initiatives, which introduce more fairness in the economy and contribute to the fight against social exclusion, should be supported.

With its roots in the local environment and the mission it follows, social entrepreneurship helps to strengthen the real economy, while contributing to social cohesion, employment and the reduction of geographical imbalances.

The objective of this conference is to discuss the way to design an adequate policy-making to help develop social entrepreneurship in the European Union and thus materialize the Commission commitment taken under the Single Market Act on 13 April 2011 (with a special focus on lever 8: social entrepreneurship). The basis for discussion will be the Social Business Initiative ("SBI"), which will be adopted by the Commission some weeks before the conference takes place, and which will be part of a global package aiming at making the European enterprises more responsible. This SBI will put forward proposals to build the right ecosystem for social entrepreneurship in Europe.

08:15 – 09:00 **Registration and Welcome Coffee**

09:00 – 09:15 **Introduction**

Opening speech: **José-Manuel Barroso, President of the European Commission**

09:15 – 10:45 **Session 1: *How to make entrepreneurship work with social innovation?***

09:15 – 09:35 Keynote speech: ***To be confirmed***

09:35 – 10:45 Panellists (*Inter alia*):

- **Laszlo Andor, European Commissioner for Employment, social affairs & inclusion ***
- **Staffan Nilson, chairman of the European Economic & Social Committee***
- **Muhammad Yunus, Founder, Grameen Bank (Bangladesh,) *Nobel Peace Prize 2006* ***
- **Mario Mauro, Member of the European Parliament, co-chair of Intergroup Social Economy**

10:45 - 11:15 *Networking coffee break*

Visit the dedicated website for the Social Business Initiative at ...

The conference will be web streamed at: <http://webcast.ec.europa.eu/eutv/portal/index.html>

11:15 – 12:45 **Session 2: *How to design an appropriate financial framework for social entrepreneurship in the European Union?***

11:15 – 11:35 Keynote speech: *To be confirmed*

11:35 – 12:45 Panellists (*Inter alia*):

- **Michel Barnier, European Commissioner for Internal Market & Services***
- **Maire Geoghegan-Quinn, European Commissioner for Research, Innovation & Science**
- **Sven Giegold, Member of the ECON Committee and rapporteur for UCITS, European Parliament***
- **Nicole Notat, CEO Vigeo (FR)**
- **Sir Ronald Cohen, Founder and Chair of Bridges Ventures and Chair of Big Society Capital Ltd (UK)***

12:45 - 14:30	<i>Networking standing Buffet Lunch</i>
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14:30 - 16:00 **Session 3: *how to promote social entrepreneurship, ensure better capacity building and foster entrepreneurs' education?***

14:30 – 14:50 Keynote speech: *To be confirmed*

14:50 - 16:00 Panellists (*Inter alia*):

- **Antonio Tajani, Vice-President of the European Commission in charge Industry & Entrepreneurship***
- **Androulla Vassiliou, European Commissioner for Culture & Education**
- **Pervenche Bérès, European Parliament, Chair of the Employment & Social Affairs Committee**
- **Caroline Casey, Ashoka fellow and founder of Kanchi (IE)***

16:00 - 16:30	<i>Networking coffee break</i>
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16:30 – 18:00 **Session 4: *how to develop an adequate regulatory & economic framework for socially-driven ventures?***

16:30 – 16:50 Keynote speech: *To be confirmed*

16:50 – 18:00 Panellists (*Inter alia*)::

- **Joaquin Almunia, Vice-President of the European Commission in charge of Competition**
- **Algirdas Semeta, European Commissioner for Taxation & Custom Union**
- **Richard Pelly, CEO of the European Investment Fund***
- **Luigi de Magistris, Member of the European Parliament, Mayor of Naples**
- **Maria Nowak, Chair of ADIE (FR)***

18:00 – 18:15 – *closing panel* by Vice-President Tajani and European Commissioners Andor & Barnier

* participation confirmed