

European Council of the Liberal Professions

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Dear Commissioner Bieńkowska,

I am writing to you in my capacity as President of the European Council of the Liberal Professions (CEPLIS), the only European organisation bringing together the bodies federating the liberal professions at the level of Member States and those that represent specific professions at the level of the European Union.

Our membership has followed with great interest the recent discussions in the EP on the oral question addressed to you by several MEPs regarding the next steps the European Commission envisages to take as per the action lines defined by the Working Group of the former DG Enterprise on "Bolstering the Business of the Liberal Professions". Having actively participated, along with many of its members, in the works of this Group, CEPLIS was very pleased to hear that you are going to invite the professions at the coming annual SME Summit in Luxembourg and that an important document for our sector will be published by your services this coming October.

As you know, our professions are playing a very important role as generators of employment and growth Europe-wide whilst at the same time serving the EU goal of a competitive economy based on knowledge and quality. We feel that it is time this role is seriously taken into consideration and is granted the support it deserves by the Union's institutions, especially when it comes to boosting our sector's entrepreneurship capacity. The previous initiatives of the European Commission on this field have already traced a path towards a good direction. We are confident that the document you have recently announced will follow and further explore this path.

From our side, we remain at your entire disposal in order to bring you the voice of our members and to contribute to your work by sharing with you our experience, hopes and concerns. In that context, we'd welcome the opportunity of a meeting with your cabinet at your convenience.

With kind regards,

Rudolf Kolbe
President of CEPLIS