



Bolstering the Business of Liberal Professions

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Summary of Actions

Brussels, April 2014

DG ENTERPRISE AND INDUSTRY



1. Education and Training for Entrepreneurship (1/2)

- *Support the integration of Entrepreneurship Education into the initial professional education and training of Liberal Professionals:*

- o Connect Liberal Profession Organisations with universities and other institutions providing professional education to participate in curriculum and teaching methodology development.
- o Explore the creation of online / e-learning courses for the dissemination of basic entrepreneurial knowledge.
- o Explore the (co)financing and organisation of entrepreneurship education initiatives or chairs for liberal profession students.

- *Support the integration of Entrepreneurship Education into the continuing professional development of Liberal Professionals (same points as above)*



1. Education and Training for Entrepreneurship (2/2)

- *Support the development of Common Professional Frameworks – to be discussed.*
- *Support and strengthen the use of the programme Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs (EYE) for the professional training and development of liberal professionals*
- *Connect Liberal Professions with Actors and Projects in general Entrepreneurship Education*



2. Access to Markets

- *Explore - together with professional bodies, organisations and pension scheme providers - the needs for new skills for new jobs and mobility on the labour market*
- *Facilitate the access to markets in third countries*
- *Invite Member States to provide business support services for liberal professions*



3. Reduction of Regulatory Burden

- *Invite representatives of the liberal professions to contribute to the reduction of the regulatory burden*
- *Work with representatives of the liberal professions on the development of a common framework of professional standards*

4. Access to Finance

- *Reinforce the access to the financing instruments of the Competitiveness and SME (COSME) and other programmes by liberal professionals*
- *Strengthen the provision of financial and investment readiness training for liberal professionals*
- *Ensure participation of representatives of the liberal professions in the Round Table on improving SME financing*
- *Explore the development of alternative forms of financing*



5. Strengthening representation and Participation at European Level

- *Formalise the representation of the European Liberal Professionals in DG Enterprise and Industry's conferences, fora and other meetings*
- *Create a Liberal Profession Forum*
- *Explore the creation of work groups for specific themes*



6. Further Open Questions / Proposals to Discuss (1/2)

- *Elaborate a study to analyse the state of entrepreneurship in the professional services? (exact scope and objectives?)*
- *Enhance the elaboration of articles and reports as well as the dissemination of initiatives / examples / best practices.*
- *Creation of a specific category for the support of Liberal Professions in the European Enterprise Awards?*
- *Introduce a "concise and homogenous definition of the CPD concept".*
- *Include the professional organizations in the provision of advisory services including a core document or guide, an e-platform. – E.g., integrate them into the offers of the Enterprise Europe Network?*



6. Further Open Questions / Proposals to Discuss (2/2)

- *Promotion of business incubators and co-working spaces.*
- *Foster senior entrepreneurs as*
 - *Buyers of liberal profession firms*
 - *Advisors / mentors to new entrepreneurs in liberal professions*
- *Promote distinguished liberal professionals as role models – integrate it into the entrepreneurship education or go further?*
- *Provide for mitigation / management of longevity risk, active ageing, break events of life cycle etc. – inclusion of other DG s like DG EMPL into the envisaged Forum?*
- *Usage of the Youth Guarantee for new liberal professionals?*