Bolstering the Business of Liberal Professions

Summary of Actions

Brussels, March 2014

DG GROWTH
Action Lines "Bolstering the Business of Liberal Professions"

  Working Group (2013) with representatives of liberal professions' organisations

- Action Lines "Bolstering the Business of Liberal Professions": 5 pillars

- European Conference on Liberal Professions (9/04/2014)
1. Education and Training for Entrepreneurship (1/2)

- **Support the integration of Entrepreneurship Education into the initial professional education and training of Liberal Professionals:**
  - Connect Liberal Profession organisations with universities and other institutions providing professional education.
  - Online/e-learning courses for dissemination of basic entrepreneurial knowledge.
  - (co)financing and organisation of entrepreneurship education initiatives 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
- 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

- **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 meetings and events 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 DGs like DG EMPL into the envisaged Forum?
- Usage of the Youth Guarantee for new liberal professionals?
For more information:


Thank you for the attention!

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