



Bolstering the Business of Liberal Professions - Summary of Actions

Brussels, March 2014

DG GROWTH



Action Lines "Bolstering the Business of Liberal Professions"

- *Entrepreneurship 2020 Action Plan (2012):*
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:*
 - o Connect Liberal Profession organisations with universities and other institutions providing professional education.
 - o Online/e-learning courses for dissemination of basic entrepreneurial knowledge.
 - o (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:

http://ec.europa.eu/growth/smes/promoting-entrepreneurship/work-for/liberal-professions/index_en.htm

Thank you for the attention!

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