



**News release
For immediate release**

Social dialogue should develop in the direction of a reform partnership

(Brussels, 5 March 2015) On the occasion of the high-level conference on a new start for social dialogue in Europe held in Brussels today, BUSINESSEUROPE welcomes the initiative of the Juncker Commission to relaunch and strengthen the European social dialogue. Today's conference shall be a starting point and create the basis for a transformation of this dialogue into a reform partnership facilitating the necessary reforms. The latest figures paint a clear picture. It is the countries which did the necessary, sometimes painful reforms that now show the most significant growth rates.

BUSINESSEUROPE President Emma Marcegaglia said:

"We need a joint vision with our social partners on the challenges ahead, especially on the labour markets. The European social dialogue should be a facilitator for necessary reforms. Trade unions should acknowledge that European companies face severe global competition, and improved competitiveness alone will allow us to keep Europe's social model functioning".

BUSINESSEUROPE Director General [Markus J. Beyrer](#) said:

"Europe's social problems derive from a lack of competitiveness and not from a lack of European social legislation. European companies are confronted with numerous obstacles which will have to be overcome in order to allow them to create more jobs. Nostalgia of the 1990s does not help. We need to address the current challenges."

ENDS

BUSINESSEUROPE

Contact:

Peter Sennekamp
Director of Communications
168 Avenue de Cortenbergh
1000 Brussels - Belgium
GSM : +32 496 919 315
p.sennekamp@businessseurope.eu