
PRESS RELEASE



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PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT

**COMMISSION PRESIDENT PRODI ADDRESSES
UNICE SME CONFERENCE ON ENTREPRENEURSHIP
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, 13 AND 14 OCTOBER 1999**

UNICE organizes a high-level SME Conference on the theme of entrepreneurship on Wednesday 13 and Thursday 14 October 1999 in the European Parliament under the patronage of EP President Ms Nicole Fontaine and with support of the European Commission.

This conference brings together top decision makers from EU institutions and entrepreneurs from across Europe to assess and improve Europe's capacity for enterprise and innovation. Key-note speakers are: Mr Romano Prodi, President of the European Commission, Mr Erkki Liikanen, Member of the European Commission, Mr Kimmo Sasi, Finnish Minister of External Trade and Baron Georges Jacobs, President of UNICE.

SME's play a crucial role in developing economic growth and employment; the two biggest challenges for Europe today. As stated in UNICE's Benchmarking Report on Entrepreneurship: "Europe needs more jobs. Entrepreneurs create jobs. Therefore, Europe needs more entrepreneurs". Creating the conditions for more dynamic entrepreneurship in Europe should be our common priority. This will be UNICE's main message at the conference.

For more information and conference registration, please visit the UNICE website at:

www.unice.org

Wytze Russchen

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