

**PRESS RELEASE****NEWS RELEASE****09/05/2014****For immediate release****“EUROSCEPTICISM IS NOT THE ANSWER TO CREATE MORE JOBS”**

BUSINESSEUROPE's Council of Presidents met in Athens on Europe Day, at the invitation of its Greek member federation, SEV.

Two weeks before the European elections and celebrating the 64th anniversary of the declaration proposing the creation of a European Coal and Steel community of 9 May 1950, Emma Marcegaglia, President of BUSINESSEUROPE said: *“Euroscepticism is not the answer. The European Parliament has a crucial role to play. The future European Parliamentarians to be elected on 25 May should join forces with the European Council to put in place a daring European Commission and help take the necessary decisions to build a strong Europe, a competitive Europe and a growth-oriented Europe that creates more jobs for European citizens.”*

The leaders of BUSINESSEUROPE's 41 national member federations met Prime Minister Antonis Samaras and Minister Kostis Hatzidakis. They underlined that the Competitiveness Council should make its voice heard in the debate on the 2030 energy and climate package, which is crucial for the relocation of industrial production in Europe, as well as the need to improve coordination within the Commission in order to streamline competitiveness in all EU policies.

Dimitris Daskalopoulos, President of SEV Hellenic Federation of Enterprises and Vice-President of BUSINESSEUROPE said: *“Today, more than at any other time, what we need is the strengthening rather than the lessening of Europe. The May elections should designate the collective will of Europe's people to end the crisis through the reaffirmation of European unity. It is a unity which can be forged through the concomitant commitment to the aims of growth for all and the strengthening of social cohesion.”*

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BUSINESSEUROPE is the leading advocate for growth and competitiveness at European level, standing up for companies across the continent and actively campaigning on the issues that most impact their performance. We speak for enterprise in 35 European countries whose national business federations are our direct members.

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