

October 2024

**Joint statement: supporting the renewal of the SME Intergroup in the European Parliament**

Dear Members of the European Parliament,

As discussions on the renewal of Parliamentary Intergroups take place, we would like to **ask for your support on renewing the mandate of the SME Intergroup.**

Intergroups play a unique and essential role in the European Parliament by providing forums for informal exchange of views on key issues across different political groups. These forums facilitate important contact between Members and civil society.

Despite the significant contribution SMEs make to Europe's economy, there is no dedicated committee within the European Parliament. The SME Intergroup, one of the oldest and most active groups, fills this gap by offering a cross-party platform where policies to support SMEs can be developed and enhanced. Through this platform, MEPs and civil society representatives can work together to champion the concerns of SMEs and entrepreneurs in the European Parliament.

Throughout the last mandate, the SME Intergroup addressed essential issues, including:

1. Reducing regulatory burdens and overcoming barriers in the Single Market.
2. Promoting the respect of the "think small first" principle in the law-making process.
3. Supporting SMEs in navigating the digital, green, and skills transitions.
4. Facilitating economic recovery through targeted COVID-19 support measures.

Given the limited number of intergroups in Parliament, the renewal of the SME Intergroup's mandate is crucial to ensuring that these valuable discussions continue. By renewing its mandate, the European Parliament can further support the competitiveness and resilience of SMEs, ensuring their needs are at the forefront of Europe's evolving economy. The four organisations have several proposals and ideas to enhance the already fruitful dialogue between Members of the European Parliament and the business community.

We kindly ask for your support in extending the SME Intergroup's mandate, allowing it to build on its successes and continue driving effective policies for the over 25 million SMEs across Europe who are creating quality jobs anchored in local communities.

Thank you for considering this important matter.

Yours sincerely,



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