



Blog



EP elections - Joint Statement of the Presidents of BDA, BDI, CEOE, Confindustria, Lewiatan and MEDEF

Joint Statement of the Presidents of BDA, BDI, CEOE, Confindustria, Lewiatan and MEDEF

in the aftermath of the European elections

There is a clear majority for those parties which are in favour of European integration. They now have to take determined action through their representatives in the European Parliament, Commission and Council in order to focus EU policy on the big global issues and to end unnecessary interference in citizens' everyday lives. Therefore we, the Presidents of the leading business organisations in France, Germany, Italy, Poland and Spain call upon our governments and the European institutions to take decisive action to build a strong and globally competitive European Union. It is no longer time to use Europe as an easy scape goat, taking the blame for economic difficulties and collective fears for the future.



We are convinced that only together with our European partners we can seize the opportunities of globalisation to foster growth and jobs and have a say in world politics and thus address the concerns Europe's citizens have raised by their vote.

Globalisation is a significant opportunity to deepen integration of the EU in key areas, if we, as Europeans, want to remain relevant in tomorrow's world. But it is up to governments and EU institutions to seize this opportunity and show the benefits of a closer integration to its citizens. No individual EU country – no matter how large – can possibly keep up and influence global tectonic changes in equal terms. This needs to be stated clearly. The beginning of this new legislative term can become a unique opportunity to further strengthen trust in Europe.

The five years ahead of us require courageous policy choices: The "Europe of 28" needs a political realignment focusing on global competitiveness, growth, prosperity and employment. It follows that all the EU institutions should focus on a limited number of key priorities providing real added value and reorganize their working structures and political decisions to achieve these objectives.

The Eurozone, the 18 countries which share an even closer destiny, needs more cooperation and democratic control to promote convergence towards higher levels of global competitiveness and inclusion of its citizens. As a priority, the European Semester should promote both budgetary consolidation and structural reforms to stimulate growth and secure higher levels of employment. Greater efforts should be made to prioritize the strengthening of the industrial competitiveness and to promote coordinated economic policies to increase the contribution of manufacturing to European GDP. Progress must be made along the path of budgetary and fiscal convergence.

We call on the governments of France, Germany, Italy, Poland and Spain to share responsibility and move European integration forward. The time has come for actions not words!"

Ingo Kramer

President of BDA

Bundesvereinigung der Deutschen Arbeitgeberverbände e.V.

Ulrich Grillo

President of BDI

Bundesverband der Deutschen Industrie

Giorgio Squinzi

Juan Rosell

President of Confindustria

President of CEOE

Confederazione Generale dell' Industria Italiana Confederación Española de Organizaciones Empresariales

Henryka Bochniarz

Pierre Gattaz

President of Lewiatan

President of MEDEF

Polish Confederation Lewiatan

Mouvement des Entreprises de France



Copyright 2014 – Updated on 26 May 2014

[Contact us](#)