



EUCDW welcomes revitalisation of the Lisbon strategy by the EU Commission

Will now concrete steps follow ?

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The EUCDW supports the European Commission in its aim to revitalize the Lisbon Process and to give more people the chance to find a job. **These efforts follow the EU constitution which pre-sets full employment.**

In order to create the kind of dynamics required to achieve the objectives set out in Lisbon we need to do more than just reform national rules and regulations, improve the structures of the financial markets and increase overall investment levels. One of the most decisive factors regarding any attempt to increase factor productivity is promoting “knowledge production”, which means **adapting all relevant policies (economic, financial, social, employment and education policies) to people’s abilities to learn, to change, to reform.**

With regard to strengthening the competitiveness of the EU, the EUCDW furthermore emphasises the need to improve productivity. This entails affecting changes with regard to the capital intensity of production as well as the total factor productivity.

The EUCDW is against all job-lot demands for ‘more flexibility’ in the employment market. It is much more necessary in the first line for social partners to take **targeted action** to improve competitiveness.

The required measures must, however, simultaneously take the requirements of businesses into consideration and address the issue of people’s needs and values, such as the compatibility of work and family life and the trust in high standards of social protection. The willingness of the individual to assume responsibility, to become involved in entrepreneurial initiatives and to contribute to society will be decisive in achieving the objective of Lisbon.

The European Union of Christian Democratic Workers (EUCDW) consists of 23 workers’ organisations from 15 countries and is an association of the European People’s Party (EPP). Elmar Brok MEP, President ; Christoph Weisskirchen, Secretary General. Tel 0032 2 285 4164, Fax 0032 2 285 4141, e-mail: euclidw@evppe.be, homepage: www.euclidw.org