

25 March 2017

An Open Letter to President Juncker and European Heads of State and Government, President Tusk and President Tajani

Dear Presidents, dear Prime Minister,

Today, we celebrate 60 years of peace, democracy and prosperity in Europe. More than 500 million people are free to think, speak, work, live, love and trade in the largest single market in the world governed by the rule of law. The European Union has delivered much, not in the least a peaceful continent for so many decades. But changes are necessary now to meet the people's expectations.

The Chemical industry was born in Europe and we are proud to have contributed to the growth and development of Europe over the last sixty years. We are not only industries and companies, but also workers and citizens. Our products have helped to enable the quality of life and prosperity we enjoy today.

Also in the future we will continue to respond to the new challenges faced by our societies, through innovating to deliver real solutions for consumer demand, climate, energy and scarce resources and to create new well-qualified jobs.

For this, we need Europe's single market to prosper and grow, based on the four fundamental freedoms of Europe- the free movement of goods, capital, services, and people. And in times like today we need strong European leadership.

Europe must adapt if it is to continue to prosper and flourish and deliver to its people. We call on the European leaders to focus on a Europe that does better, in particular:

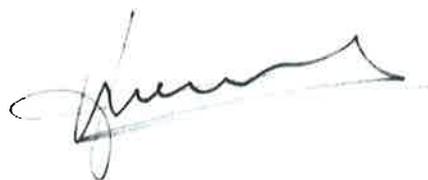
- To give a clear answer to the citizens' concerns raised and to showcase each day why Europe is important to all its citizens, in all regions and countries.
- To maintain the internal market and ensure its rules and standards are used by all countries.
- To foster a European industrial renaissance and create new opportunities for young people.
- And to defend free movement of goods, both inside Europe and outside – through international trade. In a globalized world, free and fair trade has benefited all Europeans. Europe needs to stand firm in defending this vital principle in uncertain times.

Together, we can help this continent to prosper for another 60 years. Let's not forget our history, let's build our common future together.



Dr. Hariolf Kottmann

President



Marco Mensink

Director General

Chemistry making a world of difference

European Chemical Industry Council - Cefic aisbl
Avenue E. van Nieuwenhuyse 4 B-1160 Brussels Belgium
Tel. +32.2.676.72.11 mail@cefic.be www.cefic.org