

# CREATE, EMPOWER, CONNECT

## A European Agenda for Inclusive Entrepreneurship



The **European Agenda for Inclusive Entrepreneurship** is a framework aimed at fostering more diverse and inclusive entrepreneurial ecosystems across Europe. Recognising the vital role that entrepreneurs play in shaping societies and driving economic growth, the agenda emphasises the need for **entrepreneurship to better reflect the diversity of our European societies**. Challenges such as climate upheaval, demographic change, and digital transformation require sustainable solutions adapted to the populations they aim to serve.

By adopting the European Agenda for Inclusive Entrepreneurship, we aim to ensure that **everyone is included** in entrepreneurship, tapping into unique skills and experiences to bridge cultures, spark new ideas, and sustainably grow our economies.

### OUR ASKS

#### CREATE AN INCLUSIVE ENVIRONMENT

We call for a supportive and open environment for cross-cultural entrepreneurs, removing barriers to their inclusion and participation in Europe. We can unlock their creative and innovative potential by providing them with tools and support specifically adapted to their needs.

#### EMPOWER ENTREPRENEURS

We call for an intersectional approach that ensures every entrepreneur is included. We need inclusivity across all backgrounds, with strategies to uplift all entrepreneurs, ensuring they have the tools and opportunities they need to succeed.

#### CONNECT ACROSS DIVERSITY

We call for an economically strong, sustainable and fair Europe that draws its strength from the diversity of its citizens. By fostering deeper economic relationships with countries of origin and promoting diversity and sustainability in business, we boost innovation and economic development.

#### ABOUT UNITEE

UNITEE is a network with 30 years of experience, representing entrepreneurs and business professionals with a cross-cultural background. Our goal is to support New European entrepreneurs and business professionals and enhance inclusion through entrepreneurship.



## CREATE

### **Evidence-based Policy**

Develop a Europe-wide policy on inclusive entrepreneurship with a clear vision for achieving inclusive and sustainable growth along with enhanced social rights by gathering better data on entrepreneurial diversity and needs to advance evidence-based policymaking.

### **Dedicated Commission Portfolio**

Appoint a European Commissioner with a dedicated portfolio on prioritising inclusive entrepreneurship in the next Commission's policy agenda, enhancing policies strengthening diversity, facilitating coordination between policy areas and allocating resources accordingly and more effectively.

### **European Inclusive SME Bank**

Establish a European Inclusive SME Bank dedicated to supporting and financing SMEs with funding to create a supportive and inclusive environment for entrepreneurs in Europe. This will promote economic development, reduce financial disparities, provide tailored support, and foster entrepreneurship across diverse communities.

## EMPOWER

### **Inclusive Support**

Enhance social safety and business development support for entrepreneurs. Boost education and outreach programmes such as Erasmus for Entrepreneurs as well as programmes promoting digital and green skills.

### **Accessible Administration**

Simplify administrative procedures by reducing regulations and reporting requirements for all entrepreneurs through digital solutions and specialised fast-track procedures. Offer special status with tax exemptions and reduced social contributions to incentivise entrepreneurship.

### **Education and Mentorship**

Embed entrepreneurship education at all levels of education, highlighting the transferable skills of entrepreneurial mindsets. Fund diverse mentorship programmes to increase the visibility of diverse entrepreneurial role models.

## CONNECT

### **Networks**

Incentivise diverse business networks through tax deductions or subsidised memberships, recognising their key role in supporting diverse entrepreneurs at the local, national, and European levels.

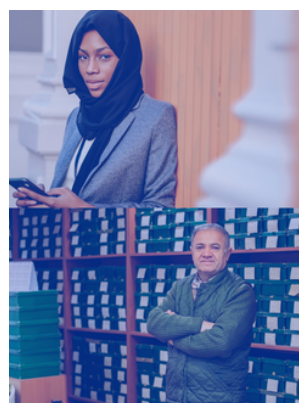
### **Partnerships**

Form partnerships between public and private stakeholders, such as municipalities, banks, universities and policymakers to improve access to funding, allowing support programs to reach those who need entrepreneurial assistance the most while injecting entrepreneurial innovations into the work of partners.

### **Mobility**

Ease legal requirements for third-country nationals by introducing specific visas for entrepreneurship, which will promote deeper economic relationships with countries of origin of our diverse population. Encourage entrepreneurship as a viable career option for refugees and asylum seekers seeking work opportunities.

## ENTREPRENEURSHIP FOR ALL



The European Agenda for Inclusive Entrepreneurship offers a solution to our collective challenges. By strengthening inclusion, diversity, and equity within the entrepreneurial landscape, we can acknowledge and integrate diverse contributions to our society and economy.

The European Agenda for Inclusive Entrepreneurship promotes a resilient and innovative Europe that draws strength from the richness of its citizens through dismantling barriers and fostering new economic relationships. Embracing this agenda is not only a response to current challenges but a strategic move towards a more inclusive and prosperous future.

