

15/05/2020

*Video conference with the President and Director-General **BusinessEurope**
(**Pierre Gattaz and Markus Beyrer**)*

COM was represented by the President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen, and Member of Cabinet Maria Luisa Cabral.

BusinessEurope was represented by P. Gattaz (President) and M. Beyrer (DG).

For BusinessEurope the recovery should be built across five main pillars:

1. Investment. They support a suitable size MFF topped by fresh money. The amounts need to match the current crisis.
2. Economic. The Green deal and digital transformation will be key but not enough. We need a strong single market, industrial policy and “smart” social policy.
3. International. EU should lead in supporting a rules-based, free-trade world. Europe should lead the way in re-opening the world.
4. Governance. Convergence between MS should be fostered both by EU money and national structural reforms. EU money needs to be well spent.
5. Social dialogue.

The President noted the political agreement on SURE and presented the main features of Recovery plan/MFF. On the European Green Deal, the President underlined it is not about investing in the future.

On Gattaz’s remark that the EU has an unique opportunity to build a stronger Europe, good for all MS, the President underlined that EU and MS would be investing together in the future. By helping others, we help ourselves. Solidarity is key for the EU, and that makes us different from the rest of the world.

The President noted she was happy to co-host a virtual tripartite summit before the summer.