

## ***Mr Paul Jankowitsch, President of WdF***

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Ladies and Gentlemen,

Let me welcome you in this House of Industry in the heart of the Vienna city centre.

As President of the Economic Forum of Executives, it is a real pleasure for me to be able to welcome the CEC conference at a "historical time" in the history of Austria.

Mobility is a fascinating and essential topic for the future. Our profession, our situation as executives has always been linked to mobility and employability. Anyone who was once a manager has undoubtedly experienced both.

Personally I lived and worked in several countries and it is what I always wanted to do. This is an incredible experience. One of the consequences is that you can make the most of the opportunities offered to you by mobility, mainly in Europe.

A lot has already been written on whether the Chinese, Japanese, American or even Russian model is the best one. The future will bring the answer.

I am convinced that the social and economic model of Europe has great assets and can substantially contribute to the development and to competition between regions.

I believe that managing diversity and complexity and making the most of strengths and opportunities provided to us in Europe will allow us – if we can make sure this model can be sustainable – to work to highly positive development.

During the conference, we will have the opportunity to get to know interesting initiatives and aspects.

I wish you a fruitful conference and a beautiful day.