



CONSULTATION ON A POSSIBLE STATUTE FOR A EUROPEAN PRIVATE COMPANY (EPC)

Consultation document of
the Services of the Internal Market Directorate General

The CEC European Managers welcomes this consultation on a possible statute for a European company. As a European social partner representing managers and executives, the chapter concerning *'Social aspects – employees' involvement in the company's decision-making process (V)'* is particularly relevant for CEC and raises the issue of **managers' involvement in SME's**.

The CEC thinks that the employees' involvement is crucial for the sustained growth of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs).

Within this framework, the CEC thinks that the statute of the EPC should follow the same solution concerning the participation of the workers as the one applicable to the European company. It matters that the model of the SE inspires the other steps of the European private company statute.

In particular, executives and managers assume essential duties which involve a high degree of responsibility, competence and professionalism in the management and implementation of the company's objectives.

At the same time, managers can feel isolated in a small structure which do not have any employee representation bodies. They often have more responsibilities but less protection because they do not know their rights and who to turn to.

Managers have specific needs, interests and contributions to make. This is why an independent representation is indispensable for them.

In order to take into account this specificity, the CEC requires that a minimal standard on the participation of the executives, within the workers' representation body, be set in the future statute of the EPC.

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