



INVITATION TO A DEBATE ON SERVICES PASSPORT

April 19, 2016 from 8:30 – 10:00

**Permanent Representation of the Czech Republic to the EU
15 rue Caroly, 1050 Bruxelles**

Excessive burden, discriminatory practices and unjustified restrictions to service provision continue to complicate entrepreneurship across the EU. Since the implementation of the services directive in 2009, the Member States made a big effort to make the directive work in practice however many barriers persist and limit to unlock its full potential. The European Commission wishes to ease service provision across the EU for businesses via a tool which will simplify cross-border procedures and notifications. The new instrument – Services passport, one of the initiatives of the Strategy for Single Market for goods and services, aimed to help services providers going cross-border and eliminate unnecessary burden in multiple request for documents and other information already provided.

The aim of the debate is to analyse limitations and benefits of the services passport and define conditions of its introduction in order to provide the European Commission with valuable input for its consultation to be launched in April this year.

The discussion will be opened and moderated by **Jakub Dürr**, Ambassador, Deputy Permanent Representative, Permanent Representation of the Czech Republic to the EU.

Presentations of distinguished speakers will follow:

- **Jürgen Tiedje**, Head of Unit E.1, Service Policy for Consumers, DG GROW, European Commission
- **Evelyne Gebhardt**, Member of IMCO Committee, European Parliament
- **Jan Havlík**, Director, European Affairs and Internal Market Dept., Ministry of Trade and Industry Czech Republic
- **Ben Butters**, Policy Dept. Director of EUROCHAMBRES
- **Jeroen Hardenbol**, Senior Advisor for Services of BUSINESSEUROPE

If you are interested in participating, please **register by April 15th, 2016** via email brussels@cebre.cz.
