



**9<sup>th</sup> EU-US Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) Best Practices Workshop  
in the framework of the Transatlantic Economic Council (TEC)**

**Vienna (Austria) – 15 November 2018**

**DRAFT AGENDA**

- 8:30 Registration
- 9:00 – 9:30 **Welcome and Opening Remarks**  
European Commission, US delegation, Austrian Federal Ministry for Digital and Economic Affairs, Austrian Federal Economic Chamber (WKÖ)
- 9:30 – 11:00 **Support policies to SMEs, Start-ups and Scale-ups: update on EU and US actions**
- EU Start-up and Scale-up initiative: two years on; and similar US programmes
  - Helping SMEs going international: reinforcing SME participation in a global economy
- 11:00 - 11:15 Coffee Break
- 11:15 – 12:45 **SME access to finance – main developments in US and EU**
- Crowdfunding and Fintech – policy initiatives and market developments
  - Venture Capital – policy initiatives and financial instruments: the US experience of SBIC (Small Business Investment Company)
- 12:45 – 14:00 Lunch
- 14:00 – 15:30 **Intellectual Property (IP) protection and SMEs**
- IP services for SMEs in the area of international IP protection
  - Exchange of EU and US experiences in supporting SMEs to better benefit from IP
- 15:30 – 15:45 Coffee break
- 15:45 - 17:15 **Developing entrepreneurship competencies: skills needed for SMEs in the Transatlantic market place**
- Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs going global: first lessons from the expansion of the programme to the US
  - Exchange of EU-US best practices in upgrading workforce skills in SMEs
- 17:15 – 17:45 **Wrap-up and Closing Remarks**