



# INTERNATIONAL ProAktivity Summit 2015

**Brussels  
15-17 July 2015**



**Bogdan Brunon Wenta**  
Member of the European Parliament

**"Understanding that every man forges his own destiny makes us look forward and think "what can I do to achieve it", rather than convince ourselves that "we cannot do anything" or that someone should do it for us."**

The **YouthProAktiv International ProAktivity Summit 2015** was held on **15- 17 July** in **Brussels**, bringing together **young students, entrepreneurs, professionals** from various fields and **key-decision-makers**. By fostering the discussion of **innovative ideas, sectors and trends**, we sought to promote a new approach to **proactivity** that resides on **youth initiative, innovation and social inclusion**.



"I am happy to take part in the ProAktivity Summit because I believe in young people, and in their potential to contribute to changing our societies and our economies"

**Simone Baldassarri,**

Policy Officer, European Commission, unit  
SMEs&Entrepreneurship, DG GROW

"I am a big supporter of the 'proactive approach' not only referring to learning by doing, but mostly because of understanding the social responsibility for giving a solid contribution for our societies"

**Marsida Bandilli,**

The Active Citizen of Europe, 2014

Active Citizen of Europe Award Holder, 2014



"We already have the answers and resources that we need to fix all the challenges we face in the world today..."

All it takes for humanity to succeed is more people that listen to their creative ideas and act on them!"

**Pierre-Yves Hittelet,**

Co Founder & CEO [www.R-each.be](http://www.R-each.be)

A total of **four enhanced discussions** were held during the summit, gathering a number of top experts from various fields and organisations, that allowed for active debates on:

**"Mentality change and Educational Reform"**

**"Opportunities and Difficulties for Business in Europe"**

**"How to create a good product for the market?"**

**"Where to Look for Business Opportunities? New Branches of Economy"**

Participants were directly participating through the negotiations of the  
**"Declaration of Young Europeans on Youth Unemployment"**

Furthermore, a group of **young successful entrepreneurs** gave their valuable testimony and shared with the audience **the key role proactivity, entrepreneurship and persistence** played in their personal professional experiences and success.

## Main conclusions and recommendations

**The need for reform of the educational systems and change of the existing paradigm, based on standardization of skills and knowledge.**

Digital literacy as a key driver in our societies and a growing priority in educational programs.

**The actual importance of “failing” in people’s pathway to success.**

The advantages of SMEs in adapting to and maneuvering in crisis contexts.

**The need for entrepreneurs to have a long-term vision from the very start, with a clear way forward, supported by a comprehensive analysis of the market.**

The importance for the European economies to create a new framework for ageing populations that allows them to remain active in the labor market for a longer period of

**The need for a social business to structure itself in pillars such as quality, efficiency and competitiveness.**

Money is always important, but ultimately the decisive factors are dedication and hard work.



"Participating to the International ProActivity Summit is a tremendous opportunity to get inspired by exceptional people who decided to make the difference by turning ideas into project"

**Edoardo Camilli**

Founder & Director of International Security Observer



"Do. Then Think about it. Then do it better. Just do it. Be proactive!"

**Hugh Viney,**

Director of Minerva Tutors



"Entrepreneurship is like a roller-coaster. If you wish to get really high you also have to sometimes get low. But it is worthy"

**Jonathan Schockaert**

Co-founder and CEO of ListMinut.com



We have 2 hands, 2 feet and 1 mouth... We were built for action, not empty words. Change never happened without action!

**Madi Sharma**

European Economic and Social Committee



## Interesting Data



50 participants



3 continents



16 countries

34%



40% university students

20%



20% young professionals



30% young entrepreneurs

66%



28% business executives



36% entrepreneurs



25 speakers



16% policy-makers



20% social activists



## Acquired soft-skills



6.9% communication skills

19.2% self-motivation



18.7% leadership skills

12.3% team-working



25.3% creativity and problem solving

17.6% time management and life-balance



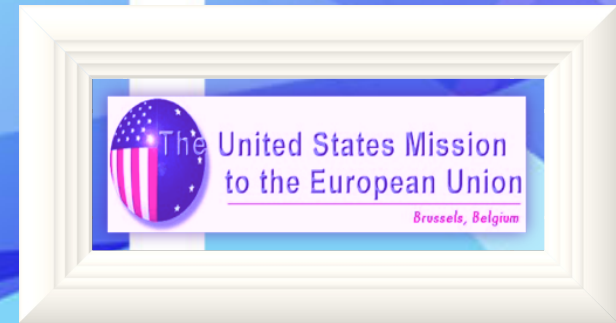
83% of participants were engaged or planning to get engaged in social-related activities.



"A proactive approach is fundamental if you really want to be, quoting "Invictus" poem by William Ernest Henley, "the master of your life".

**Giulia Ferrero**

Participant- International ProAktivity Summit



"A proactive approach, taken in a responsible way, is needed in order for the world to be able to face issues in not only a much faster way but also to influence the environment, in a positive way around the ones taking such approach."

**Jaouad El Azzouzi**

Participant- International ProAktivity Summit



"The most important time is now. We should make decisions and act at all levels of our society out of the consciousness that each person is responsible for shaping her own future."

**Raluca Barzu,**

Participant- International ProAktivity Summit



"Through this summit, the goal is both to help individuals become proactive and to make sure public policies and a reformed education encourage this trend. In other words, it is exactly what our society need!"

**Geoffroy Verney-Carron,**

Participant- International ProAktivity Summit



**YouthProAktiv** is contributing to the objectives of **"Startup Europe"**





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