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For immediate release:

The European Federation of Employee Share Ownership responds to European Commission Employee Share Ownership Plans

The European Federation of Employee Share Ownership (EFES), the voice of employee share ownership in Europe, has urged the European Commission to retain European employee share ownership policy within the "Jobs, Growth, Investment and Competitiveness" responsibility.

Under proposals currently being discussed within the European Commission, employee share ownership across Europe would fall to the responsibility of DG "Justice, Consumers and Gender Equality".

The European Federation of Employee Share Ownership's sent a letter to President, Jean-Claude Juncker, urging for this project to be reassessed.

Marc Mathieu, Secretary General of the EFES said:

"All over the world, from the United States to China and Africa, employee ownership is highlighted and promoted as a factor for boosting activity, greater productivity and better results and social balance for all. This is also true in the UK, where fiscal incentives in this direction have been strongly improved recently.

The development of employee share ownership can be a major factor of investment and recovery, also for the European Union. For the EU, this is the right political choice to do"

ENDS

Notes to editors:

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The European Federation of Employee Share Ownership (EFES) is an international not for profit organisation.

EFES is the voice of employee share ownership in Europe. It was established in 1998 as the umbrella organisation of employee owners, companies and all persons, trade unions, experts, researchers, institutions looking to promote the development of employee share ownership and participation in Europe.