



EACB Press Release:

Co-operative banks continue dialogue with Academics and Stakeholders

3rd June 2015- Today the European Association of Co-operative Banks (EACB) organised its Fourth Academics and Stakeholders day at the European Parliament. The event was hosted by Patrizia Toia, Member of the European Parliament, and attended by numerous participants including young researchers, top academics, think tanks, policy and rule makers, and co-operative bank representatives.

The Fourth Academics and Stakeholders day provided an important occasion and a valuable platform for the participants to discuss the latest research on co-operative banking and also the current challenges and prospects facing co-operative banks.

At this occasion Patrizia Toia declared *"In Europe co-operative banks have historically played a key role in developing the economy and they currently count for around 20% of the EU financial sector. However, the maintenance and strengthening of the co-operative model imply the need to adapt the requirements of the new framework for financial regulation to the characteristics specifications of these financial entities."*

Hervé Guider, EACB General Manager stated *"As time goes by, it is encouraging to notice an increasing interest in co-operative banks from the Academia and in particular from the young researchers. It is important to raise awareness and foster innovative thinking about our banks. For this reason, I am glad to announce the publication of a Call for papers for the Fourth edition of the EACB Award for Young Researchers on Co-operative Banks."*

The Call for Papers for the Fourth EACB Award for Young Researchers on Co-operative Banks is available for download on the [EACB website](#).

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About the EACB:

The European Association of Co-operative Banks (EACB) has been the voice of co-operative banks since 1970. It represents, promotes and defends the common interests of its 31 member institutions and of co-operative banks in general. Co-operative banks form decentralized networks which are subject to banking as well as co-operative legislation. With 4,200 locally operating banks and 68,000 outlets, co-operative banks play a major role in the financial and economic system. They serve almost 205 million customers, mainly consumers, SMEs and communities. Europe's cooperative banks represent 78 million members and 860,000 employees and have an average market share of about 20%. Their resilience during the crisis make co-operative banks a key driving force in the economic recovery.

Website: www.eacb.coop

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