

# 3<sup>rd</sup> Congress of Micro-, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises in Catalonia

*Digitalization, the future of Catalan SMEs*



**Fepime**  
catalunya

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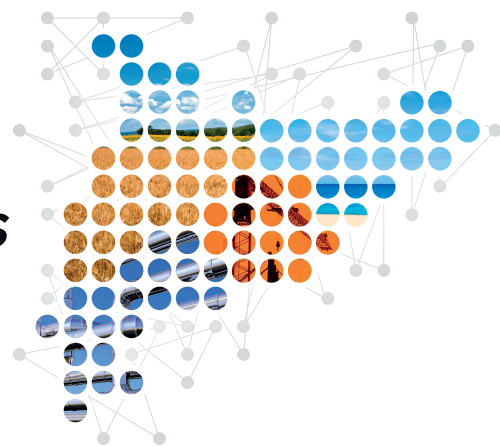
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## Fepime promotes the 3rd Congress of Micro-, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises in Catalonia

Fepime Catalunya, the Federation of Small and Medium-sized Enterprises in Catalonia, organizes the **3rd Congress of Micro-, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises in Catalonia 2018**. It will consist of more than 20 territorial and sectorial meetings which will be held throughout the territory within 4 months.

This year, under the slogan **"Digitalization, the future of Catalan SMEs"** Fepime has set the goal of knowing first-hand about the reality and the needs of Catalan SMEs on its digitalization process in order to adapt their business to the new digital environment.

The will of the Catalan employers' organization is to establish an interactive dialog at the different working sessions in order to address the concerns of the SMEs, primarily on the field of digital transformation. Fepime, which has made a clear commitment with digitalization throughout 2017 by offering different training courses to its members, wants to understand the problems that Catalan SMEs have to face to fit their business to the new digital environment if they want to remain competitive.

The meetings at the different organizations are scheduled as working sessions to collect those problems and challenges of SMEs also in other areas such as infrastructures, financing, taxes, innovation, internationalization, labor relations, power consumption, administrative procedures, training and unfair competition, always from the perspective of SMEs.

The conclusions of the sessions will allow drafting a document that will gather the main concerns of each sector and territory in order to improve business activity.

«We want to be able to hear first-hand about the problems and proposals of entrepreneurs in order to find solutions to the real needs of Catalan SMEs» says Maria Helena de Felipe, President of Fepime Catalunya.

The conclusions of the **3rd Congress of Micro-, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises in Catalonia 2018** shall be made known at the end of the event which will be held at the headquarters of Fepime (Via Laietana, 32, Barcelona) on 4 June, from 11:00am to 14:00pm.

### Schedule of working sessions:

FEBRUARY	Business Association of Tarragona (CEPTA)	Tarragona
	Business Association of Hospitalet and Baix Llobregat (AEBALL)	L'Hospitalet de Llobregat
	Federation of Associations and the Maresme Business Association (FAGEM)	Mataró
MARCH	Business Association of the Ebre Counties (AECEBRE)	Tortosa
	Osona Business Council (CEDOSONA)	Vic
	Business Association of Berguedà (ACEB)	Berga
	Intersectoral Management Council of Sabadell and its Region (CIESC) and Textile Industry Confederation (TEXFOR)	Sabadell
	Catalan Timber Industry (SFC)	Barcelona
APRIL	Industrial Grouping Baix Vallès (AIBV)	Sant Fost de Campsentelles
	Business Association of Lleida (COELL) and Commerce Confederation of Catalonia / Lleida Federation of Commerce (FECOM)	Lleida
	Independent Young Entrepreneurs Association of Catalonia (AIJEC)	Barcelona
	Business Association of Girona (FOEG)	Girona
	Business Federation of Central Catalonia (FECC)	Manresa
MAY	Guild of Hotels of Barcelona (GHB)	Barcelona
	Catalan Agricultural Institute of Sant Isidre	Barcelona
	Business Association of Anoia (UEA)	Igualada
	Gran Penedès Business Association (FEGP)	Vilanova i la Geltrú
	Catalan Association of Businesswomen and Executives (ACEE)	Barcelona
	Spanish Textile and Clothing Association (AEGP)	Barcelona
	Business Association of El Ripollès (UIER)	Ripoll
	Intersectoral Business Union (UEI) and Management Confederation of Terrassa (CECOT)	Granollers
	Metallurgical Employers Union (UPM)	Barcelona

### 4<sup>th</sup> of June - Closing Ceremony Agenda:

10.45 h	Reception of assistants
11.00 h	Welcome: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>M<sup>a</sup> Helena de Felipe, President of Fepime Catalunya</li><li>Dolors Montserrat, Minister for Health, Social Services and Equality of Spain</li></ul>
11.30 h	Conclusions on the 3rd Congress. Audiovisual
11.40 h	Conclusions on the 3rd Congress. With the participation of the Presidents of different Fepime member associations <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Competitiveness. Josep Antoni Belmonte, President of the Business Association of Tarragona (CEPTA)</li><li>Training and business needs. Ernest Plana, President of the Business Association of Girona (FOEG)</li><li>Infrastructures. Josep M<sup>a</sup> Gardèñes, President of the Business Association of Lleida (COELL)</li><li>Digital transformation of SMEs. Eloi Palà, President of the Independent Young Entrepreneurs Association of Catalonia (AIJEC)</li></ul>
12.15 h	Panel discussion. Digitalization for personal growth Moderated by: Roberto López del Cura, Director of Exact España <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Carles Grau, Director-General of Mobile World Capital</li><li>Jordi Marín, Regional Director of Microsoft Ibérica</li><li>Montse Serra, General Manager of Services and Solutions HP Iberia</li></ul>
13.00 h	Panel discussion. Effectiveness of EU policies for digitalization With the participation of 4 members from the European Economic and Social Committee – Employers' Group Moderated by: Josep Puxeu Rocamora, President of EU-Chile Joint Consultative Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Dimitris Dimitriadis, President of the European Economic and Social Committee from 2006-2008</li><li>Pietro Francesco de Lotto, Spokesman of the SMEs Category at European Economic and Social Committee</li><li>Milena Angelova, Vice-president of the European Economic and Social Committee</li></ul>
13.45 h	Closing session with the participation of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Joan Aregio, Secretary of Enterprise and Competitiveness of the Generalitat de Catalunya</li><li>Luis Planas, Ambassador of Spain to the European Union (2010-2011) and Secretary-General of the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC)</li><li>Mario Buisan, Director-General of Industry and SMEs of the Spanish Government</li><li>Marisa Poncela, Spanish Secretary of Commerce</li><li>Joaquim Gay de Montellà, President of Foment del Treball</li><li>Antonio Garamendi, President of the Confederación Española de la Pequeña y Mediana Empresa (CEPYME)</li><li>M<sup>a</sup> Helena de Felipe, President of Fepime Catalunya</li></ul>