PRESS RELEASE

Vocational Training in the context of an inclusive society – experiences, demands and perspectives
21st International Annual Conference of the EVBB / EVTA in Malta from 04th to 7th October 2017

Malta, 04th October 2017. The European Association of Institutes for Vocational Training (EVBB) will hold its 21st annual international conference from 04th to 07th October in Malta, together with the “European Vocational Training Association” (EVTA) and “Paragon Europe”. This will be the first time that the conference will take place in Malta, the smallest EU member state. EVBB President Thiemo Fojkar: “We decided to hold our Annual Conference in Malta, because the Maltese Government had the Presidency of the Council at the European Union for the first half of 2017”. Since Malta has yielded remarkable results in the VET and education fields, we are happy to have prominent guests from the Maltese Government at our conference as well.

Challenges for an inclusive Europe

This year the annual conference of EVBB / EVTA will take place at the Excelsior Hotel in Valletta and will once again put an emphasis on the issues of crucial importance for politicians, VET providers and the labour market. EVBB President Thiemo Fojkar: “We want to showcase the best examples of VET, particularly with respect to the integration of migrants and refugees and discuss the challenges that need to be tackled by the parties involved – companies, VET providers and the politicians."

Over 100 attendees from Europe and beyond will discuss their contribution to vocational training in four workshops. Among other questions, they will discuss the development from Industry 4.0 to 5.0, but also how new strategies in EU funding can be established.

*DIE EUROPA* Award Ceremony

On the first day of the conference on 05th October the award ceremony of the “DIE EUROPA” prize takes place. The prize is sponsored by the Adalbert Kitsche Foundation. The prize is awarded each year to innovative vocational training projects which focus on disadvantaged young people. The “Europa” is a female winged statue cast in fine bronze. Its head is modelled on the head of a dove of peace, standing on the European part of a stylised globe.

About the EVBB

The EVBB is a European umbrella organisation. It was founded in December 1992, a few days before the launch of the European Single Market. Today, it has almost 60 member associations and members from more than 20 countries in Europe, Africa and Asia. The EVBB has more than 35,000 employees in total in its member associations, working in over 1,500 educational institutions. More information on this and the conference can be found at www.evbb.eu.
About the EVTA

The “European Vocational Training Association” (EVTA) is a network of European organisations, working together in the field of vocational training. Over the past 15 years, the EVTA has become a key player in this field. More information on EVTA and its network can be found at www.evtaecosystem.eu.

About Paragon Europe

“Paragon Europe” is an innovative, international EU affairs, advisory and compliance company with offices in Malta and Brussels. Paragon Europe works with both private and public organisations, NGOs, universities, educational institutes and agencies offering various services related to European funded programmes. More information on Paragon Europe and its network can be found at www.paragoneurope.eu.

Media contact: Horst Dreimann, EVBB Secretary General, Rue Victor Oudart 7, 1030 Brussels,
Mobile: +32 472 76 16 97, Email: press@evbb.eu