



## Opinion pronouncement above EU 2020

Piteå Municipality, the committee Board for Labour market issues and Adult Education has taken note of the CONSULTATION ON THE FUTURE "Europe 2020" STRATEGY And want to make the following observations.

- We agree with the essence of the descriptions and visions for the future. We would like to make a few observations in the areas the Committee board is responsible for.

### ***Key priorities for EU 2020.***

“To achieve a sustainable social market economy, a smarter and greener economy, Europe needs to promote key, agreed priorities and to work on delivering them over several years. No single Member State can successfully address these challenges alone. Nor is EU policy simply the addition of 27 national policies. By acting together on a common vision, we can make the whole more than the sum of its parts. This is an agenda for all Member States, large and small, old and new, highly developed and still developing. The enlarged EU consists of different levels of development and therefore different needs. But the EU 2020 vision is relevant to all of them and can be adapted to different starting points and different national specificities so as to promote growth for all.”

- We agree with this but Implementation requires in addition to national and regional stakeholders, must include a large involvement of local partners to succeed

### **Priorities**

#### **(1) *Creating value by basing growth on knowledge.***

- We agree about the importance of an economy based on knowledge. The level of knowledge must be sufficient for the needs from the labour market.
- An ambitious European Digital Agenda is very important for the development of sparsely populated areas.

#### **(2) *Empowering people in inclusive societies.***

- We really will emphasize the importance of empowering people. There must be resources allocated at all levels to this issue.

### **Flexicurity**

- We will emphasize the security factor in a flexicurity system.

### **Employment rates of immigrants can be improved,**

- We really hope that this can be a fact. It is necessary to find new ways for immigrants to settle in smaller towns and rural areas, not only in big cities.



**Self-employment should become a real option for those who may have recently lost their job.**

- We think that this can be an alternative for some of them. Of course are not all recently unemployed good entrepreneurs.

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