



**Letter of Endorsement for
The Entrepreneurial Skills Pass (ESP)**

7 April 2016

The Entrepreneurial Skills Pass (ESP) is a unique qualification for young people that allows them to prove the business knowledge and skills they have acquired and the practical experience and real-life business situations that they were exposed to during the JA Company Programme. What can better prepare young professionals for the job market than a test of their abilities in a safe environment, supported by trained educators and experienced business volunteers?

CSR Europe believes that in order to be competitive in the global market, companies need young people with the right skills more than ever. At the same time, Europe has a significant untapped human capital. To achieve higher sustainable growth, to foster more innovation, and to take full advantage of the skills and talents available in Europe, the business and education sectors need to open up not only to the world, but also to each other.

We recognise that the ESP offers a unique opportunity for young people to gain the skills and expertise necessary to excel in today's job market, while providing businesses with the skilled and driven professionals that they need.

We are proud that the ESP plays an important role in the European Pact for Youth; the joint CSR Europe and European Commission initiative bringing together representatives of business, education, youth, and the European institutions in order to boost youth employability. The Pact calls on all businesses, social partners, education and training providers, youth organisations, public and private employment services, teachers, trainers, learners and parents, as well as other key actors, to develop or consolidate partnerships in support of youth employability and inclusion.

CSR Europe is dedicated to supporting the growth and expansion of the ESP by engaging its stakeholders and national partners.

Stefan Crets
Executive Director