

# Press Release

Brussels, 30 June 2017

## Co-operatives ensure no one is left behind

AMICE is proud to support the cooperative movement as part of the International Day of Cooperatives 2017 on 1 July. This year's theme is inclusion, highlighting the people-focused nature of cooperative enterprises and other factors such as member control and economic participation.

The latest statistics from AMICE, released recently in [Market InSights 2015](#) published jointly with ICMIF, show that 414 million member-policyholders were served by mutual and cooperative insurers in the EU in 2015. Almost 440,000 people were employed in the sector, a 31% increase in employment since the onset of the financial crisis. Almost one-third of the total EU insurance market premiums in 2015 was the responsibility of mutual and cooperative insurers.

Cooperative and mutual insurers have a closer relationship with their member/policyholders and society than typically seen in the stock-listed sector. The value of this relationship is illustrated in AMICE's publication "[Good practices vis-à-vis staff, member-policyholders and society.](#)" The collection of more than 30 case studies of initiatives taken by AMICE members demonstrates the different ways they support and encourage different parts of the community.

Sarah Goddard, Secretary General of AMICE, said:

*"As this year's International Day of Cooperatives' slogan states, cooperatives ensure no one is left behind. The inspiring stories in our "Good practices" publication show how Europe's insurance mutuals and cooperatives are empowering people and championing equality."*

\*\*\*

### Notes to the editors

#### About AMICE (Association of Mutual Insurers and Insurance Cooperatives in Europe)

AMICE is the voice of the mutual and cooperative insurance sector in Europe. The Brussels-based association advocates for appropriate and fair treatment of all mutual and cooperatives insurers in a European Single Market. It also encourages the creation and development of innovative solutions for the benefit of European citizens and society.

Mutual and cooperative insurance follows the principles of solidarity and sustainability, and is characterised by customer-membership and a democratic governance. The mutual business model, with its focus on using surpluses for the benefit of its members, is the natural way to provide insurance.

The close to 3,000 EU insurers united in the mutual and cooperative sector account for more than half of all insurance undertakings and for a market share of more than 32%. They provide cover for more than 400 million members/policyholders and employ nearly 440,000 staff.



For further information, please contact:

Tatiana Paraskeva, Communications Officer

Tel +32 2 609 56 47 | [tatiana.paraskeva@amice-eu.org](mailto:tatiana.paraskeva@amice-eu.org) | [www.amice-eu.org](http://www.amice-eu.org)

Follow us on Twitter: [@AMICE\\_Mutuals](https://twitter.com/AMICE_Mutuals) ,

LinkedIn: [AMICE Company page](#)

YouTube: [AMICE Channel](#)