

Identifying Optimal Policy Making and Legislation

KEY FINDINGS

1. Smart Single Market regulation is an approach to improving the effectiveness of Single Market regulation through providing a tool for effective consideration of policy options for achieving clear policy objectives. It emphasises the strategic programming phase to policy development and the use of ICT and a wider range of data sources to assist in collecting and collating evidence.
2. Progress against the Europe 2020 targets has been mixed to date. There are still two targets for which only limited progress has been made – relating to investment in R&D and the number of people at risk of poverty. The focus of the European Commission seems to have shifted toward the Juncker Plan and sectoral strategies, such as the Digital Single Market Strategy, though these have less well specified outcome and delivery targets than Europe 2020.
3. For future high level strategies, there should be less focus on GDP growth and more on alternative measures of economic and social performance for setting priorities. This is not just an academic question. Such approaches can lead to different policy conclusions when the focus is on wider measures rather than on GDP growth. Much of the necessary understanding and development of sustainable development and wellbeing indicators is already in place.
4. An important aspect of performance-based strategic programming is the identification of interactions between policies. Any synergies need to be recognised so that they can be reinforced. Where the interactions are negative, policies need to be adjusted so that conflicts are reduced or avoided. More coordination of priorities and activities across Committees of the European Parliament would assist this process and the IMCO Committee can play a key role in this activity.
5. There are significant benefits from the legislation adopted in the areas of free movement of goods, services, Digital Single Market and public procurement. Quantified benefits amount to €985 billion/year with further benefits potentially available in future. These benefits estimates have underlined the difficulties in obtaining adequate data to effectively monitor and evaluate outcomes.
6. Research for the IMCO Committee in 2013 criticised the use of data in impact assessments linked to the Digital Single Market. The Regulatory Scrutiny Board reviews the quality of impact assessments. Good progress is being made but further improvements are needed in the quantification of costs and benefits. Similar improvements also need to be made to evaluation practices.
7. High quality policy implementation relies on quantified impact assessments that draw on previous evaluations and are supported by evaluation and monitoring plans that, in turn, are supported by strong data collection processes. These are key elements of Smart Single Market regulation.



1 Introduction

This Briefing forms part of a programme of research commissioned by the Internal Market and Consumer Protection Committee of the European Parliament (‘the IMCO Committee’). The research programme has the aim of updating the study undertaken for the IMCO Committee in 2014 on the “Contribution of the Internal Market and Consumer Protection to Growth”.¹ The overall aim is to provide background information and advice for IMCO Committee members on the benefits of legislation established in the field of internal market and consumer protection and to reflect on priority measures and actions to be undertaken in this field. A workshop was held in Brussels on 10th July 2018, at which progress on this programme of research was presented and discussed.²

This Briefing focusses on tools for use in the identification of optimal policy making and their application in the area of the internal market and consumer protection. It uses the smart Single Market regulation concept – developed in earlier research for the IMCO Committee - to present the tools for optimal policy making and to assess the development of policy for the internal market and consumer protection.³

First, some context is provided with a discussion of the Europe 2020 targets, the “Contribution to growth” report and the Juncker Plan. Second, the smart Single Market regulation concept is introduced and finally policy developments and legislation for the internal market and consumer protection are discussed with recommendations for improvements to the policy-making process.

2 Europe 2020 Strategy

In 2010, the European Commission set out the Europe 2020 strategy for getting the EU “back on track” following the economic crisis of the previous two years. The main priorities for 2010 to 2020 set out in the Europe 2020 strategy were:

- 1 Smarter growth: based on knowledge and innovation.
- 2 Sustainable growth: resource efficient, green, competitive.
- 3 Inclusive growth: high employment, social and territorial cohesion.

The strategy set out headline targets for the EU and translated these into targets for individual member states. It also proposed ‘Flagship Initiatives’ aimed at achieving the three main priorities as shown in the table .

The ‘Contribution to Growth’ Report (2014) noted that progress on headline Europe 2020 targets was mixed and focussed mainly on the seven flagship initiatives. It described a range of achievements for the single market and from improving consumer protection. It suggested that there was scope for a significantly higher contribution to growth from areas covered by the flagship initiatives and also from areas not covered by these initiatives, including services, public procurement and taxation. The report referred to research suggesting that elimination of intra-EU good and services barriers could increase EU GDP by 14% by 2020.⁴ This would be equivalent to annual GDP being €1,863 billion higher (in 2011 prices) by 2020.⁵

Smart growth	Sustainable growth	Inclusive growth
“Innovation Union”	“Resource efficient Europe”	“Agenda for new skills and jobs”
“Youth on the move”	“An industrial policy for the globalisation era”	“European platform against poverty”
“Digital Agenda for Europe”		

Source: European Commission (2010).

Eurostat has published annual reports of progress against the headline Europe 2020 targets. The latest update on progress is summarised in the table below.

It is important to note that the latest data is for 2017 and 2018, so there remains a further 2 or 3 years for achievement of the targets. The table shows that targets for 2020 have been met already in two cases and that good progress has been made against four of the other targets. However, there are still two targets for which limited progress has been made since 2010 – relating to investment in research and development and the number of people in the EU at risk of poverty.

Europe 2020: latest progress

Headline Targets	Latest actual (year)
75% of the population aged 20-64 should be employed	73.2% (2018)
3% of the EU's GDP should be invested in R&D	2.06% (2017)
Reduce greenhouse gas emissions by at least 20% compared to 1990 levels or by 30% if the conditions are right	22.4% (2016)
Increase the share of renewable energy in our final energy consumption to 20%	17.5% (2017)
Achieve a 20% increase in energy efficiency (or final energy consumption = 1086 Mtoe)	1123 Mtoe (2017)
The share of early school leavers should be under 10%	10.6% (2018)
At least 40% of the younger generation should have a tertiary degree	40.7% (2018)
20 million less people should be at risk of poverty (= 96.2 million)	-4.4 million (2017)

Key:

Limited progress	Good progress	Target achieved
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Source: Eurostat (2018)⁶

In 2014, President Juncker set out the Political Guidelines for his presidency of the European Commission. His ten Commission priorities for 2015-19 are set out in the table below. There is clearly less emphasis on growth than there was in the Europe 2020 strategy and more emphasis on other factors such as fairness, standards and democratic accountability.

Ten Commission Priorities for 2015-19

Priority	Explanation
Jobs, growth and investment	Stimulating investment and creating jobs
Digital Single Market	Bringing down barriers to unlock online opportunities
Energy union and climate	Making energy more secure, affordable and sustainable
Internal market	Deeper and fairer internal market
Deeper and fairer economic and monetary union	Combining stability with fairness and democratic
Balanced & progressive trade policy to harness	Open trade – without sacrificing Europe's standards

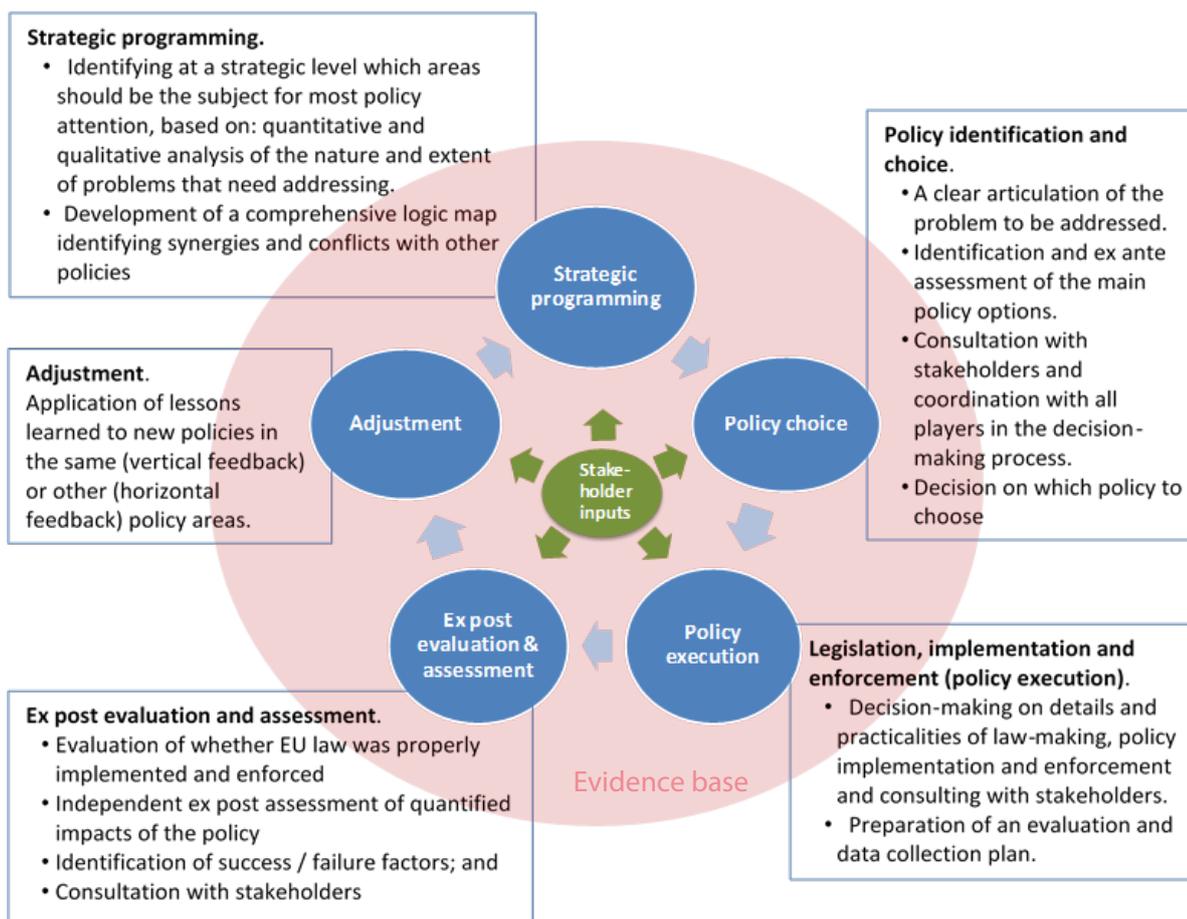
Priority	Explanation
Justice and fundamental rights	Enhancing cooperation between different EU justice systems and preserving the rule of law
Migration	Towards a European agenda on migration
A stronger global actor	Bringing together the tools of Europe’s external action
Democratic change	Making the EU more democratic

Source: President-elect Juncker (2014)⁷

3 Smart Single Market regulation as a tool for optimal policy making

Smart Single Market regulation is an approach to improving the effectiveness of Single Market regulation through providing a tool for effective consideration of policy options for achieving clear policy objectives. It is based on an enhanced performance-based policy cycle and is closely related to existing European Commission guidelines on impact assessment. It further developed the performance-based policy cycle proposed in London Economics (2013).⁸ The enhanced performance-based policy cycle places greater emphasis on a strategic programming phase to policy development and also places greater emphasis on the use of ICT and a wider range of data sources to assist on collecting and collating evidence.

The enhanced policy-based performance cycle



Source: LE Europe (2017).

The core aim of this and other approaches to impact assessment is to find ways to collate relevant evidence in a systematic and transparent way and to provide policy makers with a consistent approach to using that evidence for the assessment of the societal benefits and costs of alternative approaches to achieving policy goals.

This aim of structuring evidence in a useful and transparent way to support policies that improve outcomes for society does not preclude different views about what policy objectives should be or about what the impacts of policy options are. It is a tool to assist the policy process rather than a mechanism for determining policy choices. The principle aim is to improve the quality of regulation.

The five main phases of the enhanced performance-based policy are illustrated in the Figure above, which also illustrates the importance of the evidence base and the need for stakeholder inputs as a key part of the evidence base.

4 Strategic programming

The European Commission's Better Regulation Guidelines require that the European Commission's work should 'focus on the Commission's priorities as reflected in the President's political guidelines and the Commission's annual work programmes'. It appears however, that no assessment of potential impacts is required in the preparation of the President's political guidelines or the Commission's annual work programmes.

High level strategies ('strategic programmes') and political agendas are an important part of the policy development process. They set the context in which many individual policy choices are made and research has suggested that the preliminary stages of decision-making strongly influence the final outcome. This implies that whilst political inputs are important at the strategic programming stage, a quantified evidence base is also an important input at this early stage. It should seek to inform the political inputs.⁹

For some time there has been an academic and wider debate on the central role of GDP in economic policy-making, and the drawbacks of using GDP as a measure of economic performance has been long recognised.¹⁰ In recent years there has also been more developed thinking about alternative measures of economic performance. To some extent this debate is already reflected in the Europe 2020 strategy and the Juncker Guidelines. Europe 2020 focuses on growth, but prioritises "sustainable" and "inclusive growth", and the Juncker Guidelines also emphasise other issues such as fairness and democratic accountability. More fundamentally, wellbeing and sustainable development are recognised as key aims in the Lisbon Treaty. Article 3(1) says "*The Union's aim is to promote peace, its values and the well-being of its peoples.*" Article 3(2) also says that the internal market "*shall work for the sustainable development of Europe based on balanced economic growth and price stability, a highly competitive social market economy, aiming at full employment and social progress, and a high level of protection and improvement of the quality of the environment.*"

For future high level strategies and political guidelines, greater use of alternative measures of economic and social performance should be made in order to set priorities.

GDP and beyond

"GDP has also come to be regarded as a proxy indicator for overall societal development and progress in general. However, by design and purpose, it cannot be relied upon to inform policy debates on all issues. Critically, GDP does not measure environmental sustainability or social inclusion and these limitations need to be taken into account when using it in policy analysis and debates."

Source: European Commission (2009)

Other measures include various approaches to measuring sustainable development and wellbeing – also referred to as quality of life, life satisfaction or happiness.¹¹

Indicators associated with sustainable development and social inclusion are already included in the Europe 2020 Headline Targets, as noted above. Much of the understanding and development of wellbeing indicators is also already in place. Eurostat, the OECD and some national statistics organisations are active in this area. There are two main approaches to measuring wellbeing. Objective measures are based on indicators that are seen as contributing to a feeling of wellbeing, such as measures of poverty, access to transport, education levels, environmental indicators etc; whereas subjective measures derive from questions to individuals about their own view of their wellbeing, life satisfaction, quality of life, happiness etc.

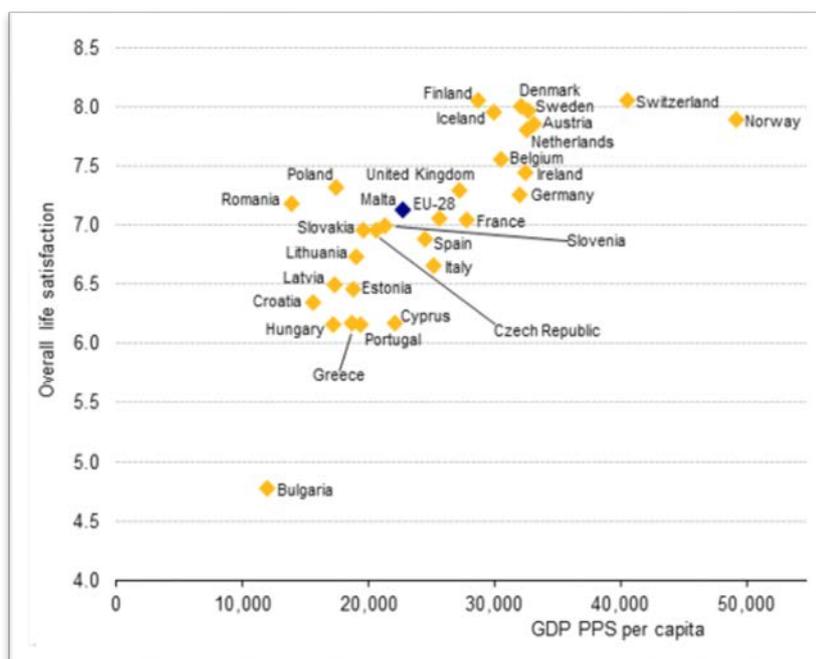
Eurostat collects data on objective measures of quality of life regularly¹² but the latest evidence on subjective wellbeing collected by Eurostat was from an ad hoc module of the EU-SILC (Statistics on Income and Living Conditions) survey in 2013.¹³ Data on these subjective measures also need to be collected annually as recommended by the Expert Group on Quality of Life Indicators in 2017.¹⁴

The use of wider measures of sustainable development, social progress and wellbeing, instead of a focus on GDP growth, is not just an academic question. Comparisons of data on GDP growth and changes in wellbeing can illustrate the potential for reaching different policy conclusions when the focus is on wellbeing instead of on GDP growth.

Using data from their 2013 survey, Eurostat made comparisons between GDP per capita for the EU 28+ countries and a measure of life satisfaction.¹⁵

Whilst in general terms the chart seems to show a positive correlation between life satisfaction and GDP per capita, there are important policy questions raised by these data. For example, Romania has a slightly higher GDP per capita than Bulgaria, but why does life satisfaction in Romania seem to be so much higher than it is in Bulgaria? Iceland, Denmark, Sweden and Norway have very similar levels of life satisfaction, even though GDP per capita is much higher in Norway. Note that Eurostat have chosen to present this chart without a zero origin on the life satisfaction axis and so this will tend to exaggerate the apparent differences in life satisfaction between countries.

Life satisfaction and GDP per person: EU28+ (2013)



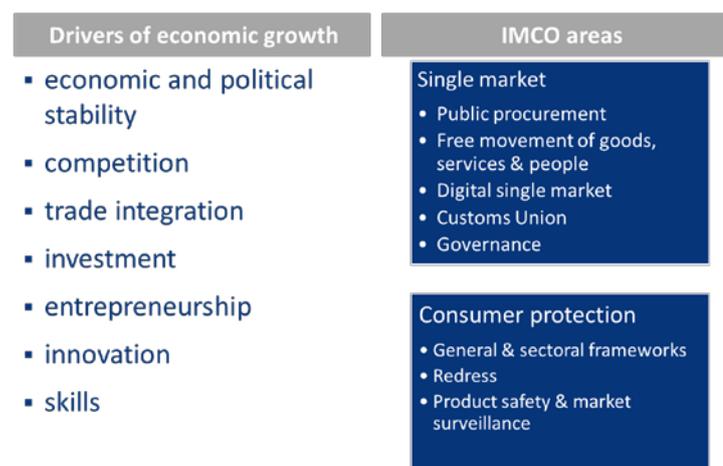
Source: Eurostat (2015).

5 Strategic programming and the IMCO Committee

The IMCO Committee covers policy areas that are key for the drivers of smart and inclusive economic growth, focussing on the single market and on consumer protection. The single market is at the core of the European Union and positions the EU as a global player in the world economy.

This key position of the IMCO Committee's policy areas means that they also play an important role in the cost of non-Europe analysis, accounting for around 60% of the estimated costs of non-Europe: €615 billion in the area of the Single Market for consumers and citizens and €415 billion in the Digital Single Market.¹⁶

IMCO Committee and economic growth



Source: LE Europe.

A series of studies conducted for the IMCO Committee's 'Contribution to Growth' exercise in 2018-19 provides insights into the benefits of a number of aspects of the single market that are relevant to the IMCO Committee's policy areas. These are summarised in the table below.

Benefits of legislation adopted by the European Parliament in IMCO Committee policy areas

Policy area	Annual benefits	Additional notes
Free movement of goods	€386 billion	Includes €367 bn/year in manufacturing and €19 bn/year in agriculture
Customs Union	€189 billion	Includes €176 bn/year in manufacturing and €13 bn/year in agriculture
Free movement of services	€236 billion	Additional future potential benefits of €148 bn/year after 2019
Digital Single Market	€172 billion	Includes: Electronic communications & services - €86 bn/year Data flows and Artificial Intelligence - €52 bn/year Single Digital Gateway - €20 bn/year Geoblocking and online platforms - €14 bn/year
Modernised public procurement	€3 billion	Additional future potential benefits of €16bn/year
Total estimated contribution to growth	€985 billion	

Note: Figures are rounded to the nearest € billion. 'bn' = billion.

Source: European Parliament (2019)¹⁷

This exercise highlighted the difficulties associated with making quantified estimates of this nature. As the issues are complex, aggregate benefit estimation of this type can never be straightforward.

Some of these exercises rely on collating existing evidence on impacts for each of a large number of policy measures and so there is scope for inconsistency between estimation methods and for overlaps as well as for gaps in the evidence. Others rely on evidence at the macro level, though this can make it difficult to distinguish the impacts of individual policy measures. Further progress with quantification and consistency in European Commission impact assessments and evaluations will assist. Timing is often a key issue – for example, the analysis estimating the benefits from Digital Single Market measures notes that it is too early to make accurate ex post evaluations and so those estimates are based on ex ante assessments.

The size of the benefits indicated above underlines the significance of the IMCO Committee's role in contributing to the further development of the Single Market and to areas of sustainable development and wellbeing that are linked to economic growth.

Other Committees also have roles to play in areas relevant to a wider view of sustainable development, social inclusion and wellbeing. An important aspect of performance-based strategic programming is the identification of interactions between policies. Where these interactions are beneficial (i.e. they involve synergies) that needs to be recognised so that they can be reinforced. In contrast, where the interactions are negative, policies and programmes need to be adjusted so that conflicts and their negative impacts are reduced or avoided. This requires greater coordination of priorities and activities across Committees and the IMCO Committee can play a key role in this process.

In relevant strategic programming areas, linked to European Parliament resolutions, European Council conclusions, and European Commission strategies and work plans, the IMCO Committee can ask the following questions:

- 1 Which are the most important market failures and distributional problems that need addressing by public authorities?
- 2 What does the evidence suggest about which types of policies may be successful in addressing these issues?
- 3 Can positive or negative interactions with other strategies and policies be identified?
- 4 Which policies should be prioritised in order to meet overall targets e.g. for sustainable development, social inclusion and wellbeing.

6 Optimal policy-making for the future

In addition to ensuring that a structured and evidence-based approach to strategic programming underlies high level strategic decisions in the European Union, the IMCO Committee also has an important role in ensuring that other aspects of smart single market regulation are implemented.

A key issue recommended in the Smart Single Market Regulation study is adequate information and data – both qualitative and quantitative. This is needed to support the assessment of how potential policy options may meet high level policy goals and to support the monitoring and evaluation of implemented policy (e.g. through monitoring and data collection plans set out in impact assessments) in order to expand the evidence base for use in the next round of the policy cycle. This is consistent with the 'better law-making' agenda.

6.1 Improving the use of data in policy-making

Previous research for the IMCO Committee included a review of 10 DSM initiatives and showed that, overall:¹⁸

- 1 the information provided with the proposals rates poorly;
- 2 quantitative objectives are only set out for 2 cases;
- 3 robust quantitative data are provided in only 4 of the 10 cases;
- 4 no detailed logic model/map is provided for any of the initiatives;
- 5 in only 5 cases is a list of quantitative indicators provided;
- 6 in none of the 10 cases is a detailed evaluation plan provided.

Recommendations were made in the Smart Single Market Regulation study to improve the use of data in impact assessments. More recently, in 2017, the European Commission's Regulatory Scrutiny Board made the quantification of impacts in impact assessments a priority for their activities. A standard quantification template was developed, which simplifies and systematises the presentation of costs and benefits. There were improvements in quantification practices in 2017 and again in 2018.¹⁹ Around 85% of impact assessments in 2018 provided at least some quantification of costs – an improvement on previous years. Around 70% of impact assessments in 2018 also provided at least some quantification of benefits – a very slight decline on 2017. Nevertheless this was still a big improvement over 2016, when less than 50% provided some quantification of benefits. The Board anticipate that quantification will remain a major focus area for them and that further improvement is necessary.

The Regulatory Scrutiny Board also show which impact assessments from the European Commission's work programme in 2018 received positive opinions, positive opinions with reservations or negative opinions. Overall, 28% of the impact assessments received negative opinions the first time they were submitted and this fell dramatically to 6% for those assessments receiving a second opinion. Both figures were a significant improvement on the previous year. In 2017, the picture was significantly worse for impact assessments in IMCO Committee policy areas, however performance in these areas improved dramatically in 2018 and is now similar to the average for all impact assessments.

6.2 Taking advantage of digital systems

Digital developments such as cloud computing, data science and 'big data' provide new opportunities for collating and analysing the large scale ('big') data that exists about the performance of strategic programmes and individual Single Market policies.

These issues are being addressed by the EU institutions through the Digital Single Market (DSM) Strategy and the e-Government Action Plan 2016-20 that forms a key part of that Strategy.²⁰

The Action Plan sets out a number of 'Actions' alongside target dates for those actions. Of the 20 Actions listed in the plan, plus 5 additional Actions introduced in May 2017, the latest update describes 9 Actions as 'completed' and 16 Actions as 'on track'.²¹ Despite this, it seems unlikely that the ambitious vision set for the Action Plan will be fully achieved across all public administrations and institutions by 2020. There is clearly good progress being

Vision for the e-Government Action Plan 2016-20

"By 2020, public administrations and public institutions in the European Union should be open, efficient and inclusive, providing borderless, personalised, user-friendly, end-to-end digital public services to all citizens and businesses in the EU. Innovative approaches are used to design and deliver better services in line with the needs and demands of citizens and businesses. Public administrations use the opportunities offered by the new digital environment to facilitate their interactions with stakeholders and with each other."

Source: European Commission (2016)

made but it is not consistent across the EU and more needs to be done and will continue to need doing beyond 2020.

Principles underlying the e-Government Action Plan 2016-20

- 1 Digital by default
- 2 Once only principle
- 3 Inclusiveness and accessibility
- 4 Openness and transparency
- 5 Cross-border by default
- 6 Interoperability by default
- 7 Trustworthiness and security

Source: European Commission (2016)

'Digital' actions are at the core of smart regulation. A fully data based, paperless environment would necessitate fewer physical resources (in terms of administrative staff and infrastructure) while reducing transaction costs for the end user (especially by speeding up administrative process times and reducing the number of points of contact).

Such services are sometimes called "ubiquitous" services, or "u-services". Following the European Parliament's study on ubiquitous developments of the Digital Single Market, ubiquity may loosely be defined as information and services being present and accessible anywhere by anyone at any time.

The key benefit of these types of services is that they improve efficiency and reduce costs and barriers to the Single Market by reducing transactions costs. Improved efficiency from the availability of online access to content derives from two main sources:²²

- 1 immediate and facilitated access to information for information consumers, as opposed to slower and less convenient access to information through other mechanisms; and
- 2 the low cost of sending, sharing and receiving electronic information, compared to physical means of transport that require greater resources, energy and environmental costs.

Examples of existing digital systems for eGovernment include South Korea's e-procurement system;²³ platforms that enable interoperability between information systems (e.g. Estonia's X-Road and the EU's pilot e-Delivery platform); the EU online dispute resolution platform;²⁴ and the long-running and delayed processes for reforming the EU customs code.

6.3 Information flows and the Single Market governance tools

In addition to contributing to the policy cycle, information flows can also be vital for achieving the full benefits of implemented policy options. For example, in a study on the European Single Point of Contact in 2013, 44 different European level online information, assistance and problem solving services were identified. These are there to help citizens and businesses who may be having problems operating in the single market. These are services such as 'Your Europe', 'Enterprise Europe Network' and 'SOLVIT'. In addition to this large number of European level services, Member States also provide their own information services.

As part of the study a survey of individuals and SMEs was undertaken. This found that 92% of respondents reported that – unprompted - they did not know of any online services at the European level they would turn to if they had problems undertaking any activity in another European country. Awareness of the assistance services also seemed to be low amongst national consumer organisations. Interviews with a very small number of these organisations found:²⁵

- 1 Of six consumer organisation representatives interviewed none knew of Your Europe Advice, EURES, SOLVIT, or the IMI
- 2 Only one consumer representative had heard of each of the Consumer Protection Network and Your Europe

3 Consumer organisations were much more familiar with the ADR/ODR mechanism.

Since then the European Commission has sought to streamline the available services through its proposal for a Single Digital Gateway in 2017, though these proposals may not achieve everything that the original research on the Single Point of Contact recommended.²⁶ The benefits of the single market governance tools cannot be fully realised if citizens and their advocates are not aware of the tools.

6.4 Completing the circle: from ex post evaluation to impact assessment

The element of the policy cycle that completes the circle is the use of the information from ex post evaluation to improve the policy in future – either directly or through being taken into consideration in future impact assessments of revised policies. It's essential that insights about the causes of successes and failures of previous policy initiatives are considered in the policy making process.

As a part of the Better Regulation agenda, the "Evaluate First" principle suggests that impact assessments of proposals that aim to revise existing legislation should take account of an evaluation of the performance of that existing regulation. In 2018, 78% of these impact assessments did follow the evaluation first principle – similar to the figure of 75% for 2017 and an increase from only 50% in 2016.

But useful insights from evaluations of similar policies in Member States or in other parts of the world can also provide useful inputs, so it should not just be about ex post evaluation undertaken within the EU system. Often, when a policy is being developed the number of directly relevant previous evaluations is very limited and so the quality of the evaluation that does take place is important, and so is the dissemination of the results of the evaluation.

The European Commission's Regulatory Scrutiny Board in their latest Annual Report (2018) note that the quality of evaluations is not as high as the quality of impact assessments. There is pressure to improve the quality of evaluations – from the Regulatory Scrutiny Board, but also because of the Evaluate First principle. Independent expertise can also help to improve the quality of evaluation and so can continuing interest from the European Parliament in the outcomes of evaluations and their use in policy making.

6.5 Making evidence accessible and available in the policy ecosystem

The Smart Single Market Regulation report emphasises the importance of the dissemination of research and evaluation results and suggested a number of possible avenues for improving dissemination in future. These included making more use of systematic reviews of evidence, developing policy databases, expert networks and 'What Works' networks.

The European Commission's DG Regio, for example, manages an Evaluation Network for cohesion policy. This comprises representatives of Member States who are responsible for evaluation of cohesion policy. It shares knowledge and experience about the evaluation of cohesion policy – covering issues like methodologies, processes and results - and is chaired by the Evaluation Unit of DG Regio. That kind of network could involve independent experts too.

What works networks are networks of research centres that aim to disseminate high quality evidence about what works in policy making across public services. They can make a very useful contribution to high quality policy making, though often they do not themselves undertake evaluations of specific policies – they synthesise and disseminate. This means that they are reliant on high quality evaluations being produced elsewhere in the policy ecosystem.

Generally, since previous evidence that is directly relevant to a specific policy issue is often limited, a coordinated approach, through the EU, could benefit Member States in their own policy-making too.

- ¹ Civic Consulting (2014) "Contribution of the Internal Market and Consumer Protection to Growth", Study for the IMCO Committee, European Parliament. Available from: [http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2014/518762/IPOL_STU\(2014\)518762_EN.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2014/518762/IPOL_STU(2014)518762_EN.pdf)
- ² Details of the workshop are available here: <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/committees/en/imco/events-workshops.html?id=20180703WKS01801>
- ³ London Economics (2015) "Smart Single Market Regulation", Study for the IMCO Committee, European Parliament. Available from: [http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2015/563442/IPOL_STUD\(2015\)563442_EN.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2015/563442/IPOL_STUD(2015)563442_EN.pdf)
- ⁴ Aussilloux et al (2011) The Economic Consequences for the UK and the EU of Completing the Single Market, Report for BIS.
- ⁵ Based on a 14.1% increase in 2011 GDP at current market prices of €13,217,466.1 million. Sources: Eurostat : <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/tgm/refreshTableAction.do?tab=table&plugin=1&pcode=tec00001&language=en> and Aussilloux et al, 2011: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/83815/economic_consequences_for_the_UK_and_the_EU_of_completing_the_Single_Market.pdf
- ⁶ Eurostat (2019) "Europe 2020 Headline Indicators scoreboard". Updated 16 May 2019. Available at: <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/europe-2020-indicators/europe-2020-strategy/headline-indicators-scoreboard>
- ⁷ President-elect Juncker (2014) "Setting Europe in Motion: President-elect Juncker's Main Messages from his speech before the European Parliament". Available from <https://www.eesc.europa.eu/resources/docs/jean-claude-juncker--political-guidelines.pdf>
- ⁸ London Economics (2013) Performance-based Full Policy Cycle for the Digital Single Market, Study for IMCO Committee, European Parliament. Available at: [http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/etudes/join/2013/507457/IPOL-IMCO_ET\(2013\)507457_EN.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/etudes/join/2013/507457/IPOL-IMCO_ET(2013)507457_EN.pdf)
- ⁹ There is a more detailed discussion of this in London Economics (2015), pages 27 – 29.
- ¹⁰ European Commission (2009) "GDP and beyond: Measuring progress in a changing world" COM(2009) 433 final. Available from: https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/cros/content/gdp-and-beyond-measuring-progress-changing-world_en
- ¹¹ A deeper discussion of these issues is provided by Stiglitz, Sen and Fitoussi (2009) "Report by the Commission on the Measurement of Economic Performance and Social Progress". Available at: <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/118025/118123/Fitoussi+Commission+report>
- ¹² Eurostat quality of life data are available here: <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/gdp-and-beyond/quality-of-life/data>
- ¹³ The European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions undertakes a quality of life survey every four years (the latest in 2016). See: <https://www.eurofound.europa.eu/surveys/european-quality-of-life-surveys>
- ¹⁴ Eurostat (2017) "Final report of the expert group on quality of life indicators". Available from : <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/products-statistical-reports/-/KS-FT-17-004>
- ¹⁵ Eurostat (2015) Quality of life in Europe - facts and views - overall life satisfaction. Available from: https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/Quality_of_life_in_Europe_-_facts_and_views_-_overall_life_satisfaction
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