



2018/0231(COD)

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AMENDMENTS

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Draft opinion

Sander Loones

(PE628.583v01-00)

Establishing the Programme for single market, competitiveness of enterprises, including small and medium-sized enterprises, and European statistics

Proposal for a regulation

(COM(2018)0441 – C8-0254/2018 – 2018/0231(COD))

AM_Com_LegOpinion

Amendment 26
Alfred Sant

Proposal for a regulation
Citation 2

Text proposed by the Commission

Article 43(2), Article 168(4)(b) and
Articles 114, 173 and 338 thereof,

Amendment

Article 43(2), Article 168(4)(b) and
Articles 114, 173, **195** and 338 thereof,

Or. en

Amendment 27
Paloma López Bermejo

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 1

Text proposed by the Commission

(1) The internal market is a cornerstone of the Union. ***Since its inception, it has proved a major contributor to growth, competitiveness and employment. It has*** generated new opportunities and economies of scale for European businesses, ***notably*** micro, small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs), ***and strengthened their industrial competitiveness.*** The internal market ***contributed to the*** creation of jobs and offered greater choice at lower prices ***for consumers. It continues to*** be an engine for building a stronger, more balanced and fairer economy. It is one of the Union's major ***achievements*** and ***its best asset*** in an increasingly global world.

Amendment

(1) The internal market is a cornerstone of the Union. It has generated new opportunities and economies of scale for European businesses, ***even when such options were very far from the everyday realities of*** micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). The ***dynamics of the*** internal market ***have been complex as regards job*** creation and ***losses, although consumers have been*** offered greater choice at ***what are, normally,*** lower prices. ***The internal market can*** be an engine for building a stronger, more balanced and fairer economy ***in the new global context.*** It is one of the Union's major ***milestones*** and ***can be an important tool*** in an increasingly global world.

Or. es

Amendment 28
Paloma López Bermejo

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 2

Text proposed by the Commission

(2) The internal market has to continuously adapt to a rapidly changing environment of digital revolution and globalisation. A new era of digital innovation *continues to* provide opportunities for businesses and individuals, *creates* new products and business models but equally constitutes a challenge to regulation and *enforcement*.

Amendment

(2) The internal market has to continuously adapt to a rapidly changing environment of digital revolution and globalisation, *a process that demands far-reaching organisational change and social engagement in order to turn new challenges into an opportunity for inclusion and progress. This* new era of digital innovation *can* provide opportunities for businesses, *workers* and individuals, *and create* new products and business models, but equally constitutes a challenge *when it comes* to regulation and *inclusion of workers and consumers in the process*.

Or. es

Amendment 29
Romana Tomc

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 3

Text proposed by the Commission

(3) The substantial body of Union legislation underpins the functioning of the internal market. This concerns, in particular, competitiveness, standardisation, consumer protection, market surveillance and food chain regulation but also rules concerning business, trade and financial transactions and the promotion of fair competition providing for a level playing field essential for the functioning of the internal market.

Amendment

(3) The substantial body of Union legislation underpins the functioning of the internal market. This concerns, in particular, competitiveness, standardisation, consumer protection, market surveillance and food chain regulation but also rules concerning business, trade and financial transactions and the promotion of fair competition providing for a level playing field essential for the functioning of the internal market. *Compliance with Union rules on the competition is not only a legal requirement in Member States but*

essential for the very functioning of the internal market.

Or. en

Amendment 30

Alfred Sant

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 3

Text proposed by the Commission

(3) The substantial body of Union legislation underpins the functioning of the internal market. This concerns, in particular, competitiveness, standardisation, consumer protection, market surveillance and food chain regulation but also rules concerning business, trade and financial transactions and the promotion of fair competition providing for a level playing field essential for the functioning of the internal market.

Amendment

(3) The substantial body of Union legislation underpins the functioning of the internal market. This concerns, in particular, competitiveness, standardisation, consumer protection, market surveillance and food chain regulation but also rules concerning business, trade and financial transactions and the promotion of fair competition providing for a level playing field essential for the functioning of the internal market *with the aim of benefiting all EU citizens.*

Or. en

Amendment 31

Paloma López Bermejo

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 4

Text proposed by the Commission

(4) Still, barriers *to* the proper functioning of the internal market remain and *the* new obstacles *emerge*. Adopting rules is only a first step, but making them work is as important. This is ultimately a matter of citizens' trust in the Union, in its capacity to deliver, and ability to create jobs and growth while protecting the public

Amendment

(4) Still, barriers *that hinder* the proper functioning of the internal market remain, and new obstacles *are emerging*. Adopting rules is only a first step, but making them work is as important. This is ultimately a matter of citizens' trust in the Union, in its capacity to deliver, and *in its* ability to create *quality* jobs and *sustainable* growth

interest.

while protecting the public interest.

Or. es

Amendment 32
Paloma López Bermejo

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 4 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(4a) It is also important to bring in an element of self-criticism, highlighting the fact that the single market has not always worked in the way it was expected to, and that, in its implementation, the social and environmental consequences have not always been borne in mind. The new global situation that is emerging means it is absolutely essential that a new approach be taken to the development of the internal market. That approach should be based on integration capacity, and on the involvement of society, workers and consumers in the ongoing process of change.

Or. es

Amendment 33
Paloma López Bermejo

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 5

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(5) Several programmes for Union action exist currently in the fields of competitiveness of enterprises including SMEs, consumer protection, customers and end-users in financial services, policy making in financial services and food

(5) Several programmes for Union action exist currently in the fields of competitiveness of enterprises including SMEs, consumer protection, customers and end-users in financial services, policy making in financial services and food

chain. Some additional activities are financed directly under the internal market budget lines. It is necessary to streamline and exploit synergies between various actions and provide for a more flexible and agile framework to finance activities aiming to achieve a well-functioning internal market in the most ***cost-efficient manner***. It is therefore necessary to establish a new programme bringing together activities financed previously under those other programmes and other relevant budget lines. The programme should also include new initiatives which aim to improve the functioning of the internal market.

chain. Some additional activities are financed directly under the internal market budget lines. It is necessary to streamline and exploit synergies between various actions and provide for a more flexible and agile framework to finance activities aiming to achieve a well-functioning internal market in the most ***inclusive way possible***. It is therefore necessary to establish a new programme bringing together activities financed previously under those other programmes and other relevant budget lines. The programme should also include new initiatives which aim to improve the functioning of the internal market, ***taking as a priority goal: reducing the increasing divergence observed since the 2008 crisis between EU countries.***

Or. es

Amendment 34 **Romana Tomc**

Proposal for a regulation **Recital 5**

Text proposed by the Commission

(5) Several programmes for Union action exist currently in the fields of competitiveness of enterprises including SMEs, consumer protection, customers and end-users in financial services, policy making in financial services and food chain. Some additional activities are financed directly under the internal market budget lines. It is necessary to streamline and exploit synergies between various actions and provide for a more flexible and agile framework to finance activities aiming to achieve a well-functioning internal market in the most cost-efficient manner. It is therefore necessary to establish a new programme bringing

Amendment

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together activities financed previously under those other programmes and other relevant budget lines. The programme should also include new initiatives which aim to improve the functioning of the internal market.

together activities financed previously under those other programmes and other relevant budget lines. The programme should also include new initiatives which aim to improve the functioning of the internal market ***and its development***.

Or. en

Amendment 35

Alfred Sant

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 6

Text proposed by the Commission

(6) The development, production and dissemination of European statistics are subject to a separate European Statistical Programme established by Regulation (EU) No 99/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁴⁷. In order to provide continuity of producing and disseminating European statistics, the new programme should also include activities covered by the European Statistical Programme by providing a framework for the development, production and dissemination of European statistics. The new programme should establish the financial framework for European statistics to provide high-quality, comparable and reliable statistics on Europe in order to underpin the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of all Union policies.

⁴⁷ Regulation (EU) No 99/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 January 2013 on the European statistical programme 2013-17 (OJ L 39, 9.2.2013, p 12).

Amendment

(6) The development, production and dissemination of European statistics are subject to a separate European Statistical Programme established by Regulation (EU) No 99/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁴⁷. In order to provide continuity of producing and disseminating European statistics, the new programme should also include activities covered by the European Statistical Programme by providing a framework for the development, production and dissemination of European statistics. The new programme should establish the financial framework for European statistics to provide high-quality, comparable and reliable statistics on Europe, ***as well as on pertinent issues that impact the internal market, such as those related to trade and migration***, in order to underpin the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of all Union policies.

⁴⁷ Regulation (EU) No 99/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 January 2013 on the European statistical programme 2013-17 (OJ L 39, 9.2.2013, p 12).

Amendment 36

Romana Tomc

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 6

Text proposed by the Commission

(6) The development, production and dissemination of European statistics are subject to a separate European Statistical Programme established by Regulation (EU) No 99/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁴⁷. In order to provide continuity of producing and disseminating European statistics, the new programme should also include activities covered by the European Statistical Programme by providing a framework for the development, production and dissemination of European statistics. The new programme should establish the financial framework for European statistics to provide high-quality, comparable and reliable statistics on Europe in order to underpin the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of all Union policies.

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Amendment

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⁴⁷ Regulation (EU) No 99/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 January 2013 on the European statistical programme 2013-17 (OJ L 39, 9.2.2013, p 12).

Amendment 37

Paloma López Bermejo

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 8

Text proposed by the Commission

(8) The Programme should support the design, implementation and enforcement of Union legislation underpinning the proper functioning of the internal market. The Programme should support the creation of the right conditions to empower all actors of the internal market: businesses, citizens including consumers, civil society and public authorities. To that end, the Programme should aim to ensure the competitiveness of businesses, notably SMEs, but also supporting the enforcement of consumer protection and safety rules and by raising the awareness of businesses and individuals by providing them with the right tools, knowledge and competence to make informed decisions and strengthen their participation in Union's policy-making. Furthermore, the Programme should aim to enhance regulatory and administrative cooperation, notably through exchange of best practices, building of knowledge and competence bases, including the use of strategic public procurement. The Programme should also aim to support the development of high-quality international standards that underpin the implementation of Union legislation. This also includes standard setting in the field of financial reporting and audit, *thereby contributing* to the transparency and well-functioning of the Union's capital markets and to enhancing investor protection. The Programme should support rulemaking and standard setting also by ensuring the broadest possible stakeholder involvement. The objective of the Programme should also be to support the implementation and enforcement of Union legislation providing for a high level of health for humans, animals and plants along the food chain and the improvement of the welfare of animals.

Amendment

(8) The Programme should support the design, implementation and enforcement of Union legislation underpinning the proper functioning of the internal market *and improvements thereto in terms of social equality and minimising the increasing divergence between countries*. The Programme should support the creation of the right conditions to empower all actors of the internal market: businesses, citizens including consumers, civil society and public authorities. To that end, the Programme should aim to ensure the competitiveness of businesses, notably SMEs, *and the creation of quality jobs*, but also supporting the enforcement of consumer protection and safety rules and by raising the awareness of businesses and individuals by providing them with the right tools, knowledge and competence to make informed decisions and strengthen their participation in *the* Union's policy-making. Furthermore, the Programme should aim to *respect and keep labour laws and to* enhance regulatory and administrative cooperation, notably through exchange of best practices, building of knowledge and competence bases, including the use of strategic public procurement. The Programme should also aim to support the development of high-quality international standards that underpin the implementation of Union legislation. This also includes standard setting in the field of financial reporting and audit, *which should contribute* to the transparency and well-functioning of the Union's capital markets and to enhancing investor protection. The Programme should support rulemaking and standard setting also by ensuring the broadest possible stakeholder involvement. The objective of the Programme should also be to support the implementation and enforcement of

Union legislation providing for a high level of health for humans, animals and plants along the food chain and the improvement of the welfare of animals.

Or. es

Amendment 38
Alfred Sant

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 8

Text proposed by the Commission

(8) The Programme should support the design, implementation and enforcement of Union legislation underpinning the proper functioning of the internal market. The Programme should support the creation of the right conditions to empower all actors of the internal market: **businesses**, citizens including consumers, civil society and public authorities. To that end, the Programme should aim to ensure the competitiveness of businesses, notably SMEs, **but also** supporting the enforcement of consumer protection and safety rules and by raising the awareness of businesses and individuals by providing them with the right tools, knowledge and competence to make informed decisions and strengthen their participation in Union's policy-making. Furthermore, the Programme should aim to enhance regulatory and administrative cooperation, notably through exchange of best practices, building of knowledge and competence bases, including the use of strategic public procurement. The Programme should also aim to support the development of high-quality international standards that underpin the implementation of Union legislation. This also includes standard setting in the field of financial reporting and audit, thereby contributing to the

Amendment

(8) The Programme should support the design, implementation and enforcement of Union legislation underpinning the proper functioning of the internal market. The Programme should support the creation of the right conditions to empower all actors of the internal market: citizens including consumers, **businesses**, civil society and public authorities. To that end, the Programme should aim to ensure the competitiveness of businesses **based across all EU regions**, notably SMEs, **including in the tourism sector, and with that**, supporting the enforcement of consumer protection and safety rules and by raising the awareness of businesses and individuals by providing them with the right tools, knowledge and competence to make informed decisions and strengthen their participation in Union's policy-making. Furthermore, the Programme should aim to enhance regulatory and administrative cooperation **as well as capability**, notably through exchange of best practices, building of knowledge and competence bases, including the use of strategic **and transparent** public procurement. The Programme should also aim to support the development of high-quality international standards that underpin the implementation of Union

transparency and well-functioning of the Union's capital markets and to enhancing investor protection. The Programme should support rulemaking and standard setting also by ensuring the broadest possible stakeholder involvement. The objective of the Programme should also be to support the implementation and enforcement of Union legislation providing for a high level of health for humans, animals and plants along the food chain and the improvement of the welfare of animals.

legislation. This also includes standard setting in the field of financial reporting and audit, thereby contributing to the transparency and well-functioning of the Union's capital markets and to enhancing investor protection. The Programme should support rulemaking and standard setting also by ensuring the broadest possible stakeholder involvement, *as well as through investment in market surveillance tools for Member States*. The objective of the Programme should also be to support the implementation and enforcement of Union legislation providing for a high level of health for humans, animals and plants along the food chain and the improvement of the welfare of animals.

Or. en

Amendment 39 Paloma López Bermejo

Proposal for a regulation Recital 9

Text proposed by the Commission

(9) A modern internal market promotes competition and benefits consumers, businesses and **employees**. Making better use of the ever evolving internal market in services should help European businesses create jobs and grow across borders, offer wider choice of services at better prices, and maintain high standards for consumers and workers. To achieve this, the Programme should contribute to the removal of remaining barriers, and to ensure a regulatory framework that can accommodate new innovative business models.

Amendment

(9) A modern internal market promotes competition and benefits consumers, businesses and **workers**. Making better use of the ever evolving internal market in services should help European businesses create **quality** jobs and grow across borders, offer **a** wider choice of services at better prices, and maintain high standards for consumers and workers, **and fulfilment of the EU's environmental commitments**. To achieve this, the Programme should contribute to the removal of remaining barriers, and to ensure a regulatory framework that can accommodate new innovative business models **and stamp out practices that give rise to insecure labour markets devoid of rights**.

Amendment 40
Alfred Sant

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 9

Text proposed by the Commission

(9) A modern internal market promotes competition and benefits consumers, businesses and employees. Making better use of the ever evolving internal market in services should help European businesses create jobs and grow across borders, offer wider choice of services at better prices, **and maintain** high standards for consumers and workers. To achieve this, the Programme should contribute to the removal of remaining barriers, and to ensure a regulatory framework that can accommodate new innovative business models.

Amendment

(9) A modern internal market promotes competition and benefits consumers, businesses and employees. Making better use of the ever evolving internal market in services should help European businesses create **better** jobs and grow across borders, offer wider choice of services at better prices, **while maintaining** high standards for consumers and workers. To achieve this, the Programme should contribute to the removal of remaining barriers, and to ensure a regulatory framework that can accommodate new innovative business models **,such as social entrepreneurship.**

Amendment 41
Paloma López Bermejo

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 11

Text proposed by the Commission

(11) New regulatory and enforcement challenges relate to a rapidly changing environment of the digital revolution, concerning issues such as cybersecurity, internet of things or artificial intelligence. Should damage occur, stringent rules on product safety and liability are essential to ensure a policy response that allows European citizens, including consumers and businesses, to benefit from such rules.

Amendment

(11) New regulatory and enforcement challenges relate to a rapidly changing environment of the digital revolution, concerning issues such as cybersecurity, internet of things or artificial intelligence. ***The major challenge in this respect is not a strictly technological one: it is cultural, organisational and social. This entails a commitment to address the digital switchover with the support of all sectors***

The Programme should therefore contribute to the rapid adaptation and enforcement of a Union product liability regime which fosters innovation.

concerned: businesses, workers in the public and private sectors, consumers, public administrations, etc. Should damage occur, stringent rules on product safety and liability are essential to ensure a policy response that allows European citizens, including consumers and businesses, to benefit from such rules. The Programme should therefore contribute to the rapid adaptation and enforcement of a Union product liability regime which fosters innovation.

Or. es

Amendment 42
Romana Tomc

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 14

Text proposed by the Commission

(14) As consumer markets know no borders with the development of online trade and travel services, it is important to ensure that consumers residing in the Union can benefit from adequate protection when importing goods and services from economic operators based in third countries. The Programme should therefore allow supporting cooperation with relevant bodies located in key trading third country partners of the Union where necessary.

Amendment

(14) As consumer markets know no borders with the development of online trade and travel services *and with the development of the digital market*, it is important to ensure that consumers residing in the Union can benefit from adequate protection when importing goods and services from economic operators based in third countries. The Programme should therefore allow supporting cooperation with relevant bodies located in key trading third country partners of the Union where necessary.

Or. en

Amendment 43
Paloma López Bermejo

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 14

Text proposed by the Commission

(14) As consumer markets know no borders with the development of online trade and travel services, it is important to ensure that consumers residing in the Union can benefit from adequate protection when importing goods and services from economic operators based in third countries. The Programme should therefore allow supporting cooperation with relevant bodies located in key trading third country partners of the Union where necessary.

Amendment

(14) As consumer markets know no borders with the development of online trade and travel services, it is important to ensure that consumers residing in the Union can benefit from adequate protection when importing goods and services from economic operators based in third countries. The Programme should therefore allow supporting cooperation with relevant bodies located in key third-country trading partners of the Union, **and with any other country**, where necessary.

Or. es

Amendment 44
Paloma López Bermejo

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 15

Text proposed by the Commission

(15) Public procurement is used by public authorities to ensure value for public money spent and to contribute to a more innovative, sustainable, inclusive and competitive internal market. Directive 2014/23/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council⁴⁹, Directive 2014/24/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council⁵⁰ and Directive 2014/25/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council⁵¹ provide the legal framework for the integration and effective functioning of the public procurement markets representing 14 % of Union's gross domestic product, to the benefit of public authorities, businesses as well as citizens, including consumers. The Programme should therefore support measures to ensure a wider uptake of strategic public procurement, the professionalisation of public buyers,

Amendment

(15) Public procurement is used by public authorities to ensure value for public money spent and to contribute to a more innovative, sustainable, inclusive and competitive internal market. Directive 2014/23/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council⁴⁹, Directive 2014/24/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council⁵⁰ and Directive 2014/25/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council⁵¹ provide the legal framework for the integration and effective functioning of the public procurement markets representing 14 % of Union's gross domestic product, to the benefit of public authorities, businesses as well as citizens, including consumers. The Programme should therefore support measures to ensure a wider uptake of strategic public procurement, the professionalisation of public buyers,

improved access to procurement markets for SMEs, increase of transparency, integrity and better data, boosting the digital transformation of procurement and promotion of joint procurement, through strengthening a partnership approach with the Member States, improving data gathering and data analysis including through development of dedicated IT tools, supporting exchange of experiences and good practices, providing guidance, pursuing beneficial trade agreements, strengthening cooperation among national authorities and launching pilot projects.

improved access to procurement markets for SMEs, *social enterprises and business networks*, increase of transparency, integrity and better data, boosting the digital transformation of procurement and promotion of joint procurement, through strengthening a partnership approach with the Member States, improving data gathering and data analysis including through development of dedicated IT tools, supporting exchange of experiences and good practices, providing guidance, pursuing beneficial trade agreements, strengthening cooperation among national authorities, *participation of the various sectors involved in the programme*, and launching pilot projects.

⁴⁹ Directive 2014/23/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 February 2014 on the award of concession contracts (OJ L 94, 28.3.2014, p. 1).

⁵⁰ Directive 2014/24/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 February 2014 on public procurement and repealing Directive 2004/18/EC (OJ L 94, 28.3.2014, p. 65).

⁵¹ Directive 2014/25/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 February 2014 on procurement by entities operating in the water, energy, transport and postal services sectors and repealing Directive 2004/17/EC (OJ L 94, 28.3.2014, p. 243).

⁴⁹ Directive 2014/23/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 February 2014 on the award of concession contracts (OJ L 94, 28.3.2014, p. 1).

⁵⁰ Directive 2014/24/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 February 2014 on public procurement and repealing Directive 2004/18/EC (OJ L 94, 28.3.2014, p. 65).

⁵¹ Directive 2014/25/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 February 2014 on procurement by entities operating in the water, energy, transport and postal services sectors and repealing Directive 2004/17/EC (OJ L 94, 28.3.2014, p. 243).

Or. es

Amendment 45

Paloma López Bermejo

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 16

(16) In order to meet the objectives of the Programme and to facilitate the lives of citizens and businesses, high-quality user-centric public services need to be put in place. This implies that public administrations will need to start working in new ways, bring down silos between the different parts of their administrations, and to engage in the co-creation of these public services with citizens and businesses. Moreover, the continuous and steady increase of cross-border activities in the internal market requires provision of up-to-date information on the rights of businesses and citizens, but also information explaining the administrative formalities. In addition, provision of legal advice and helping to solve problems which occur at cross national level becomes essential. Furthermore, connecting national administrations in a simple and efficient manner as well as evaluating how the internal market works on the ground is necessary. The Programme should therefore support the following existing internal market governance tools: the Your Europe Portal which should be a backbone of the upcoming Single Digital Gateway, Your Europe Advice, SOLVIT, the Internal Market Information system and the Single Market Scoreboard in order to improve citizens' daily lives and businesses' ability to trade across borders.

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Or. es

Amendment 46
Alfred Sant

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 16

Text proposed by the Commission

(16) In order to meet the objectives of the Programme and to facilitate the lives of citizens and businesses, high-quality user-centric public services need to be put in place. This implies that public administrations will need to start working in new ways, bring down silos between the different parts of their administrations, and to engage in the co-creation of these public services with citizens and businesses. Moreover, the continuous and steady increase of cross-border activities in the internal market requires provision of up-to-date information on the rights of businesses **and citizens**, but also information explaining the administrative formalities. In addition, provision of legal advice and helping to solve problems which occur at cross national level becomes essential. Furthermore, connecting national administrations in a simple and efficient manner as well as evaluating how the internal market works on the ground is necessary. The Programme should therefore support the following existing internal market governance tools: the Your Europe Portal which should be a backbone of the upcoming Single Digital Gateway, Your Europe Advice, SOLVIT, the Internal Market Information system and the Single Market Scoreboard in order to improve citizens' daily lives and businesses' ability to trade across borders.

Amendment

(16) In order to meet the objectives of the Programme and to facilitate the lives of citizens and businesses, high-quality user-centric public services need to be put in place. This implies that public administrations will need to start working in new ways, bring down silos between the different parts of their administrations, and to engage in the co-creation of these public services with citizens and businesses. Moreover, the continuous and steady increase of cross-border activities in the internal market requires provision of up-to-date information on the rights of **citizens and** businesses, but also information explaining the administrative formalities. In addition, provision of legal advice and helping to solve problems which occur at cross national level becomes essential. Furthermore, connecting national administrations in a simple and efficient manner as well as evaluating how the internal market works on the ground is necessary. The Programme should therefore support the following existing internal market governance tools: the Your Europe Portal which should be a backbone of the upcoming Single Digital Gateway, Your Europe Advice, SOLVIT, the Internal Market Information system and the Single Market Scoreboard in order to improve citizens' daily lives and businesses' ability to trade across borders.

Or. en

Amendment 47

Paloma López Bermejo

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 18

Text proposed by the Commission

(18) The Programme should also promote the correct and full implementation and application of the Union legal framework for anti-money laundering and countering terrorism financing by the Member States and the development of future policies to address new challenges in the field. It should also support the relevant activities of the international organisations of European interest, such as the Committee of Experts on the Evaluation of Anti-Money Laundering Measures and the Financing of Terrorism of the Council of Europe.

Amendment

(18) The Programme should also promote the correct and full implementation and application of the Union legal framework for anti-money laundering, ***combating tax avoidance and tax evasion*** and countering terrorism financing by the Member States and the development of future policies to address new challenges in the field. It should also support the relevant activities of the international organisations of European interest, such as the Committee of Experts on the Evaluation of Anti-Money Laundering Measures and the Financing of Terrorism of the Council of Europe.

Or. es

Amendment 48

Paloma López Bermejo

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 19

Text proposed by the Commission

(19) The implementation and development of the internal market in the area of financial services, financial stability and the Capital Markets Union including sustainable finance, highly depends on the evidence based policy measures taken by the Union. In order to achieve this objective, the Commission should have an active role in constantly monitoring financial markets and financial stability, assessing the implementation of Union legislation by Member States, evaluating whether the existing legislation is fit for purpose and identifying potential areas of action where new risks emerge, with a continuous involvement of stakeholders

Amendment

(19) The implementation and development of the internal market in the area of financial services, financial stability and the Capital Markets Union including sustainable finance, highly depends on the evidence based policy measures taken by the Union. In order to achieve this objective, the Commission ***and the European Parliament*** should have an active role in constantly monitoring financial markets and financial stability, assessing the implementation of Union legislation by Member States, evaluating whether the existing legislation is fit for purpose and identifying potential areas of action where new risks emerge, with a

throughout the policy cycle. Such activities rely on the production of analyses, studies, training materials, surveys, conformity assessments, evaluations and statistics and are supported by IT systems and communication tools.

continuous involvement of stakeholders throughout the policy cycle. Such activities rely on the production of analyses, studies, training materials, surveys, conformity assessments, evaluations and statistics and are supported by IT systems and communication tools.

Or. es

Amendment 49
Alfred Sant

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 19

Text proposed by the Commission

(19) The implementation and development of the internal market in the area of financial services, financial stability and the Capital Markets Union including sustainable finance, highly depends on the evidence based policy measures taken by the Union. In order to achieve this objective, the Commission should have an active role in constantly monitoring financial markets and financial stability, assessing the implementation of Union legislation by Member States, evaluating whether the existing legislation is fit for purpose and identifying potential areas of action where new risks emerge, with a continuous involvement of stakeholders throughout the policy cycle. Such activities rely on the production of analyses, studies, training materials, surveys, conformity assessments, evaluations and statistics and are supported by IT systems and communication tools.

Amendment

(19) The implementation and development of the internal market in the area of financial services, financial stability and the Capital Markets Union including sustainable finance, highly depends on the evidence based policy measures taken by the Union. In order to achieve this objective, the Commission should have an active role in constantly monitoring financial markets and financial stability, **where relevant** assessing the implementation of Union legislation by Member States, evaluating whether the existing legislation is fit for purpose and identifying potential areas of action where new risks emerge, with a continuous involvement of stakeholders throughout the policy cycle. Such activities rely on the production of analyses, studies, training materials, surveys, conformity assessments, evaluations and statistics and are supported by **secured** IT systems and communication tools.

Or. en

Amendment 50
Romana Tomc

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 20

Text proposed by the Commission

(20) Considering that the internal market as set out in Article 3 of the Treaty on European Union includes a system ensuring that competition is not distorted, the Programme should support the Union's competition policy, networks and cooperation with national authorities and courts, as well as ***outreach to a wider group of stakeholders in*** communicating and explaining the rights, benefits and obligations of Union competition policy.

Amendment

(20) Considering that the internal market as set out in Article 3 of the Treaty on European Union includes a system ensuring that competition is not distorted, the Programme should support the Union's competition policy, networks and cooperation with national authorities and courts, ***including by way of strengthening international cooperation*** as well as communicating and explaining the rights, benefits and obligations of Union competition policy. ***This should contribute to ensuring fair competition and a level playing field, also at international level, and empowering businesses, in particular SMEs, and consumers in order to reap the benefits of the Single Market;***

Or. en

Amendment 51
Alfred Sant

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 20

Text proposed by the Commission

(20) Considering that the internal market ***as set out in Article 3 of the Treaty on European Union*** includes a system ensuring that competition is not distorted, the Programme should support the Union's competition policy, networks and cooperation with national authorities and courts, as well as outreach to a wider group of stakeholders in communicating and explaining the rights, benefits and

Amendment

(20) Considering that the internal market includes a system ***of rules*** ensuring that competition is not ***unnecessarily*** distorted, the Programme should support the Union's competition policy, networks and cooperation with national authorities and courts, as well as outreach to a wider group of stakeholders in communicating and explaining the rights, benefits and obligations of Union competition policy.

obligations of Union competition policy.

Or. en

Amendment 52

Paloma López Bermejo

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 21

Text proposed by the Commission

(21) The Programme in particular needs to tackle the radical implications for competition and the functioning of the internal market resulting from the ongoing transformation of the economy and business environment, in particular through the exponential growth and use of data, taking account of the increasing recourse to artificial intelligence and other IT tools and expertise by companies and their advisors. It is also essential that the Programme supports networks and cooperation with Member State authorities and courts, considering that undistorted competition and the functioning of the internal market depend critically on action by those entities. In view of the particular role of competition policy in preventing harm to the internal market resulting from anticompetitive conduct beyond the Union's border, the Programme should also support cooperation with third country authorities, as appropriate. Finally, widening outreach activities is necessary in order to allow more citizens and businesses to reap the full benefits of fair competition in the internal market. Given that a number of initiatives in the Programme are new and that the competition part of the Programme is particularly affected by dynamic developments in the conditions of competition in the internal market, notably relating to Artificial Intelligence, algorithms, big data, cybersecurity and

Amendment

(21) The Programme in particular needs to tackle the radical implications for competition and the functioning of the internal market resulting from the ongoing transformation of the economy and business environment, in particular through the exponential growth and use of data, taking account of the increasing recourse to artificial intelligence and other IT tools and expertise by companies and their advisors. It is also essential, ***in view of the tax problems and other effects represented by this new situation***, that the Programme supports networks and cooperation with Member State authorities and courts, considering that undistorted competition and the functioning of the internal market depend critically on action by those entities. In view of the particular role of competition policy in preventing harm to the internal market resulting from anticompetitive conduct beyond the Union's border, the Programme should also support cooperation with third country authorities, as appropriate. Finally, widening outreach activities is necessary in order to allow more citizens and businesses to reap the full benefits of fair competition in the internal market. Given that a number of initiatives in the Programme are new and that the competition part of the Programme is particularly affected by dynamic developments in the conditions of competition in the internal market, notably

forensic technology, the pace and magnitude of which are difficult to estimate, it is anticipated that flexibility will be required to face the evolving needs under this part of the Programme.

relating to Artificial Intelligence, algorithms, big data, cybersecurity and forensic technology, the pace and magnitude of which are difficult to estimate, it is anticipated that flexibility will be required to face the evolving needs under this part of the Programme.

Or. es

Amendment 53

Alfred Sant

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 21

Text proposed by the Commission

(21) The Programme in particular needs to tackle the radical implications for competition and the functioning of the internal market resulting from the ongoing transformation of the economy and business environment, in particular through the exponential growth and use of data, taking account of the increasing recourse to artificial intelligence and other IT tools and expertise by companies and their advisors. It is also essential that the Programme supports networks and cooperation with Member State authorities and courts, considering that undistorted competition and the functioning of the internal market depend critically on action by those entities. In view of the particular role of competition policy in preventing harm to the internal market resulting from anticompetitive conduct beyond the Union's border, the Programme should **also** support cooperation with third country authorities, **as** appropriate. Finally, widening outreach activities is necessary in order to allow more citizens and businesses to reap the full benefits of fair competition in the internal market. Given that a number of initiatives in the Programme are new

Amendment

(21) The Programme in particular needs to tackle the radical implications for competition and the functioning of the internal market resulting from the ongoing transformation of the economy and business environment ***the digital economy***, in particular through the exponential growth and use of data, taking account of the increasing recourse to artificial intelligence and other IT tools and expertise by companies and their advisors. It is also essential that the Programme supports networks and cooperation with Member State authorities and courts, considering that undistorted competition and the functioning of the internal market depend critically ***also*** on action by those entities. In view of the particular role of competition policy in preventing harm to the internal market resulting from anticompetitive conduct beyond the Union's border, the Programme should ***in addition*** support cooperation with third country authorities, ***where*** appropriate. Finally, widening outreach activities is necessary in order to allow more citizens and businesses to reap the full benefits of fair competition in the internal market.

and that the competition part of the Programme is particularly affected by dynamic developments in the conditions of competition in the internal market, notably relating to Artificial Intelligence, algorithms, big data, cybersecurity and forensic technology, the pace and magnitude of which are difficult to estimate, it is anticipated that flexibility will be required to face the evolving needs under this part of the Programme.

Given that a number of initiatives in the Programme are new and that the competition part of the Programme is particularly affected by dynamic developments in the conditions of competition in the internal market, notably relating to *the digital economy, including* Artificial Intelligence, algorithms, big data, cybersecurity and forensic technology, the pace and magnitude of which are difficult to estimate, it is anticipated that flexibility will be required to face the evolving needs under this part of the Programme.

Or. en

Amendment 54 **Romana Tomc**

Proposal for a regulation **Recital 21**

Text proposed by the Commission

(21) The Programme in particular needs to tackle the radical implications for competition and the functioning of the internal market resulting from the ongoing transformation of the economy and business environment, in particular through the exponential growth and use of data, taking account of the increasing recourse to artificial intelligence and other IT tools and expertise by companies and their advisors. It is also essential that the Programme supports networks and cooperation with Member State authorities and courts, considering that undistorted competition and the functioning of the internal market depend critically on action by those entities. In view of the particular role of competition policy in preventing harm to the internal market resulting from anticompetitive conduct beyond the Union's border, the Programme should also support cooperation with third country

Amendment

(21) The Programme in particular needs to tackle the radical implications for competition and the functioning of the internal market resulting from the ongoing transformation of the economy and business environment, in particular through the exponential growth and use of data, taking account of the increasing recourse to artificial intelligence and other IT tools and expertise by companies and their advisors. It is also essential that the Programme supports networks and cooperation with Member State authorities and courts, considering that undistorted competition and the functioning of the internal market depend critically on action by those entities. In view of the particular role of competition policy in preventing harm to the internal market resulting from anticompetitive conduct beyond the Union's border, the Programme should also support cooperation with third country

authorities, as appropriate. Finally, widening outreach activities is necessary in order to allow more citizens and businesses to reap the full benefits of fair competition in the internal market. Given that a number of initiatives in the Programme are new and that the competition part of the Programme is particularly affected by dynamic developments in the conditions of competition in the internal market, notably relating to Artificial Intelligence, algorithms, big data, cybersecurity and forensic technology, the pace and magnitude of which are difficult to estimate, it is anticipated that flexibility will be required to face the evolving needs under this part of the Programme.

authorities, as appropriate. Finally, widening outreach activities is necessary in order to allow more citizens and businesses to reap the full benefits of fair competition in the internal market. Given that a number of initiatives in the Programme are new and that the competition part of the Programme is particularly affected by dynamic developments in the conditions of competition in the internal market, notably relating ***development of the digital market*** to Artificial Intelligence, algorithms, big data, cybersecurity and forensic technology, the pace and magnitude of which are difficult to estimate, it is anticipated that flexibility will be required to face the evolving needs under this part of the Programme.

Or. en

Amendment 55

Paloma López Bermejo

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 22

Text proposed by the Commission

(22) Strengthening the competitiveness of European enterprises while reassuring an effective level playing field and an open and competitive internal market is of the utmost importance. SMEs are the engine of the European economy making up 99 % of all businesses in Europe, providing two thirds of jobs, and contributing substantially to the creation of new jobs with a regional and local dimension.

Amendment

(22) Strengthening the competitiveness of European enterprises while reassuring an effective level playing field and an open and competitive internal market is of the utmost importance. SMEs are the engine of the European economy making up 99 % of all businesses in Europe, providing two thirds of jobs, and contributing substantially to the creation of new jobs with a regional and local dimension. ***The Programme should therefore be geared towards the creation of quality jobs in all sectors.***

Or. es

Amendment 56
Paloma López Bermejo

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 23

Text proposed by the Commission

(23) SMEs share common challenges that do not affect larger firms to the same extent to obtain finance, to find skilled work force, to alleviate administrative burden, to take-up creativity and innovation, to access markets and foster internationalisation activities. The Programme should address such market failures proportionally, while not unduly distorting competition in the internal market.

Amendment

(23) SMEs share common challenges that do not affect larger firms to the same extent to obtain finance, to find skilled work force, to alleviate administrative burden, to take-up creativity and innovation, to access markets and foster internationalisation activities. The Programme should address such market failures proportionally, not unduly distorting competition in the internal market ***but aiming to correct these imbalances so harmful to small and medium-sized enterprises in particular and hence, the whole of society.***

Or. es

Amendment 57
Alfred Sant

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 24

Text proposed by the Commission

(24) Many of the Union's competitiveness problems involve SMEs' difficulties in obtaining access to finance because they struggle to demonstrate their credit-worthiness and have insufficient collateral. Additional financing challenges arise from SMEs' need to stay competitive by engaging e.g. in digitization, internationalization and innovation activities and skilling up their workforce. Limited access to finance has a negative effect on businesses creation, growth and survival rates, as well as on the readiness

Amendment

(24) Many of the Union's competitiveness problems involve SMEs' difficulties in obtaining access to finance because they struggle to demonstrate their credit-worthiness and have insufficient collateral. ***This is especially the case for social enterprises.*** Additional financing challenges arise from SMEs' need to stay competitive by engaging e.g. in digitization, internationalization and innovation activities and skilling up their workforce. Limited access to finance has a negative effect on businesses creation,

of new entrepreneurs to take over viable companies in the context of a business succession.

growth and survival rates, as well as on the readiness of new entrepreneurs to take over viable companies in the context of a business succession.

Or. en

Amendment 58
Alfred Sant

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 25

Text proposed by the Commission

(25) To overcome these market failures and to ensure that SMEs continue to play their role as the foundation for the Union economy's competitiveness, small and medium sized enterprises need extra support through debt and equity instruments to be established under the SME window of the InvestEU Fund established by Regulation [...] of the European Parliament and of the Council⁵². The loan guarantee facility put in place under Regulation (EU) No 1287/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁵³ has a proven added value and is expected to bring a positive contribution to at least 500 000 SMEs; a successor will be established under the SME window of the InvestEU Fund.

⁵² COM(2018) 439 final

⁵³ Regulation (EU) No 1287/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 establishing a Programme for the Competitiveness of Enterprises and small and medium-sized enterprises (COSME) (2014 - 2020) and repealing Decision No 1639/2006/EC (OJ L 347 of 20.12.2013, p. 33).

Amendment

(25) To overcome these market failures and to ensure that SMEs continue to play their role as the foundation for the Union economy's competitiveness, small and medium sized enterprises need extra support *also* through debt and equity instruments to be established under the SME window of the InvestEU Fund established by Regulation [...] of the European Parliament and of the Council⁵². The loan guarantee facility put in place under Regulation (EU) No 1287/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁵³ has a proven added value and is expected to bring a positive contribution to at least 500 000 SMEs; a successor will be established under the SME window of the InvestEU Fund.

⁵² COM(2018) 439 final

⁵³ Regulation (EU) No 1287/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 establishing a Programme for the Competitiveness of Enterprises and small and medium-sized enterprises (COSME) (2014 - 2020) and repealing Decision No 1639/2006/EC (OJ L 347 of 20.12.2013, p. 33).

Amendment 59
Alfred Sant

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 26

Text proposed by the Commission

(26) The policy objectives of this Programme will be *also* addressed through financial instruments and budgetary guarantee under the SME window of the InvestEU Fund. Financial support should be used to address market failures or sub-optimal investment situations, in a proportionate manner *and* actions should not duplicate or crowd out private financing or distort competition in the internal market. Actions should have a clear European added value.

Amendment

(26) The policy objectives of this Programme will be addressed through ***grants***, financial instruments and budgetary guarantee under the SME window of the InvestEU Fund. Financial support should be ***tailor-made to the economic needs of the different regions of Europe, and*** used to address market failures or sub-optimal investment situations, in a proportionate manner, ***particularly in relation to market size and risk appetite of regional development and promotional banks, and financial institutions***. Actions should not duplicate or crowd out private financing or distort competition in the internal market. Actions ***,including those aimed at dealing with access to finance market gaps,*** should have a clear European added value ***reflected in an expected impact which goes in line with EU policy objectives.***

Or. en

Amendment 60
Alfred Sant

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 27

Text proposed by the Commission

(27) The Programme should provide effective support for SMEs throughout their life-cycle. It should build on the unique knowledge and expertise developed

Amendment

(27) The Programme should provide effective support for SMEs throughout their life-cycle. It should build on the unique knowledge and expertise developed

with regard to SMEs **and** industrial sectors and on a long experience in working with European, national and regional stakeholders. This support should build on the successful experience of the Enterprise Europe Network as a one-stop-shop to improve SMEs competitiveness and develop their business in the Single Market and beyond. The Network plans to continue delivering services on behalf of other Union programmes, notably for the Horizon2020 programme, using the financial resources of these programmes. Also the mentoring scheme for new entrepreneurs should remain the tool to enable new or aspiring entrepreneurs to gain business experience by matching with an experienced entrepreneur from another country and thus allow strengthening entrepreneurial talents. The Programme should further strive to grow and extend its geographical coverage and thus offer wider range of matching possibilities to entrepreneurs in complementarity with other Union initiatives where relevant.

with regard to SMEs, industrial **and service** sectors, **including tourism**, and on a long experience in working with European, national and regional stakeholders. This support should build on the successful experience of the Enterprise Europe Network as a one-stop-shop to improve SMEs competitiveness and develop their business in the Single Market and beyond. The Network plans to continue delivering services on behalf of other Union programmes, notably for the Horizon2020 programme, using the financial resources of these programmes. Also the mentoring scheme for new entrepreneurs should remain the tool to enable new or aspiring entrepreneurs to gain business experience by matching with an experienced entrepreneur from another country and thus allow strengthening entrepreneurial talents. The Programme should further strive to grow and **fully** extend its geographical coverage and thus offer wider range of matching possibilities to entrepreneurs in complementarity with other Union initiatives where relevant.

Or. en

Amendment 61

Romana Tomc

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 27

Text proposed by the Commission

(27) The Programme should provide effective support for SMEs throughout their life-cycle. It should build on the unique knowledge and expertise developed with regard to SMEs and industrial sectors and on a long experience in working with European, national and regional stakeholders. This support should build on the successful experience of the Enterprise

Amendment

(27) The Programme should provide effective support for SMEs throughout their life-cycle. It should build on the unique knowledge and expertise developed with regard to SMEs and industrial sectors and on a long experience in working with European, national and regional stakeholders. This support should build on the successful experience of the Enterprise

Europe Network as a one-stop-shop to improve SMEs competitiveness and develop their business in the Single Market and beyond. The Network plans to continue delivering services on behalf of other Union programmes, notably for the Horizon2020 programme, using the financial resources of these programmes. Also the mentoring scheme for new entrepreneurs should remain the tool to enable new or aspiring entrepreneurs to gain business experience by matching with an experienced entrepreneur from another country and thus allow strengthening entrepreneurial talents. The Programme should further strive to grow and extend its geographical coverage and thus offer wider range of matching possibilities to entrepreneurs in complementarity with other Union initiatives where relevant.

Europe Network as a one-stop-shop to improve SMEs competitiveness **and knowledge** and develop their business in the Single Market and beyond. The Network plans to continue delivering services on behalf of other Union programmes, notably for the Horizon2020 programme, using the financial resources of these programmes. Also the mentoring scheme for new entrepreneurs should remain the tool to enable new or aspiring entrepreneurs to gain business experience by matching with an experienced entrepreneur from another country and thus allow strengthening entrepreneurial talents. The Programme should further strive to grow and extend its geographical coverage and thus offer wider range of matching possibilities to entrepreneurs in complementarity with other Union initiatives where relevant.

Or. en

Amendment 62

Paloma López Bermejo

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 27

Text proposed by the Commission

(27) The Programme should provide effective support for SMEs throughout their life-cycle. It should build on the unique knowledge and expertise developed with regard to SMEs and industrial sectors and on a long experience in working with European, national and regional stakeholders. This support should build on the **successful** experience of the Enterprise Europe Network as a one-stop-shop to improve SMEs competitiveness and develop their business in the Single Market and beyond. The Network plans to continue delivering services on behalf of

Amendment

(27) The Programme should provide effective support for SMEs throughout their life-cycle. It should build on the unique knowledge and expertise developed with regard to SMEs and industrial sectors and on a long experience in working with European, national and regional stakeholders. This support should build on the experience of the Enterprise Europe Network as a one-stop-shop to improve SMEs' competitiveness and develop their business in the Single Market and beyond. The Network plans to continue delivering services on behalf of other Union

other Union programmes, notably for the Horizon2020 programme, using the financial resources of these programmes. Also the mentoring scheme for new entrepreneurs should remain the tool to enable new or aspiring entrepreneurs to gain business experience by matching with an experienced entrepreneur from another country and thus allow strengthening entrepreneurial talents. The Programme should further strive to grow and extend its geographical coverage and thus offer wider range of matching possibilities to entrepreneurs in complementarity with other Union initiatives where relevant.

programmes, notably for the Horizon2020 programme, using the financial resources of these programmes. Also the mentoring scheme for new entrepreneurs should remain the tool to enable new or aspiring entrepreneurs to gain business experience by matching with an experienced entrepreneur from another country and thus allow strengthening entrepreneurial talents. The Programme should further strive to grow and extend its geographical coverage and thus offer wider range of matching possibilities to entrepreneurs in complementarity with other Union initiatives where relevant.

Or. es

Amendment 63
Paloma López Bermejo

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 27 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(27a) The Programme can help build up and/or improve the relationship between micro, small and medium sized-enterprises and universities, research centres and other institutions involved in knowledge creation and dissemination. This relationship can help improve businesses' abilities to tackle the strategic challenges posed by the new international context.

Or. es

Amendment 64
Alfred Sant

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 28

(28) Clusters are a strategic tool for supporting the competitiveness and scaling-up of SMEs as they offer favourable business environments. Joint Cluster Initiatives should achieve critical mass to accelerate the growth of SMEs. By connecting specialised eco-systems, clusters create new business opportunities for SMEs and integrate them better in European and global strategic value chains. Support should be provided for the development of transnational partnership strategies and the implementation of joint activities, supported by the European Cluster Collaboration Platform. Sustainable partnering should be encouraged with continuation funding if performance and participation milestones are reached. Direct support to SMEs should be channelled through cluster organisations for the following: uptake of advanced technologies, new business models, low-carbon and resource-efficient solutions, creativity and design, skills upgrading, talent attraction, entrepreneurship acceleration, and internationalisation. Other specialised SME support actors should be associated to facilitate industrial transformation and implementations of smart specialisation strategies. The Programme should thus contribute to growth and build linkages with the Union's (digital) innovation hubs and investments made under Cohesion Policy and Horizon Europe. Synergies with the Erasmus programme can also be explored.

(28) Clusters are a strategic tool for supporting the competitiveness and scaling-up of SMEs as they offer favourable business environments. Joint Cluster Initiatives should achieve critical mass to accelerate the growth of SMEs. By connecting specialised eco-systems, clusters create new business opportunities for SMEs and integrate them better in European and global strategic value chains. Support should be provided for the development of transnational partnership strategies and the implementation of joint activities ***with special attention to businesses facing a geographical handicap***, supported by the European Cluster Collaboration Platform. Sustainable partnering should be encouraged with continuation funding if performance and participation milestones are reached. Direct support to SMEs should be channelled through cluster organisations for the following: uptake of advanced technologies, new business models, low-carbon and resource-efficient solutions, creativity and design, skills upgrading, talent attraction, entrepreneurship acceleration, and internationalisation. Other specialised SME support actors should be associated to facilitate industrial transformation and implementations of smart specialisation strategies. The Programme should thus contribute to growth and build linkages with the Union's (digital) innovation hubs and investments made under Cohesion Policy and Horizon Europe. Synergies with the Erasmus programme can also be explored.

Or. en

Amendment 65
Paloma López Bermejo

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 36

Text proposed by the Commission

(36) The Union **contributes** to ensuring a high level of consumer protection, empowering consumers and putting them at the heart of the internal market by supporting and complementing Member States' policies in seeking to ensure that citizens when acting as consumers can fully reap the benefits of the internal market and that, in so doing, their safety and legal and economic interests are properly protected by means of concrete actions. The Union has also to ensure that consumer and product safety laws are properly and equally enforced on the ground and that businesses enjoy a level playing field with fair competition in the internal market. Moreover, it is necessary to empower, encourage and assist consumers in making sustainable choices, thus contributing to a sustainable, energy and resource efficient and circular economy.

Amendment

(36) The Union **should contribute** to ensuring a high level of consumer protection, empowering consumers and putting them at the heart of the internal market by supporting and complementing Member States' policies in seeking to ensure that citizens when acting as consumers can fully reap the benefits of the internal market and that, in so doing, their safety and legal and economic interests are properly protected by means of concrete actions. ***The empowerment of consumers and others involved in the process of establishing the single market should mean the establishment of a set of practices geared towards strategic and relevant involvement in the field concerned. The Union should help to stimulate an economy that promotes less unequal societies on the basis of quality jobs and workers' involvement in addressing the major challenges that the digital economy poses for businesses and society as a whole.*** The Union has also to ensure that consumer and product safety laws are properly and equally enforced on the ground and that businesses enjoy a level playing field with fair competition in the internal market. Moreover, it is necessary to empower, encourage and assist consumers in making sustainable choices, thus contributing to a sustainable, energy and resource efficient and circular economy. ***Lastly, the Union needs to see to it that states honour their commitments to combating climate change. The Union also needs to stimulate sustainable economic development.***

Or. es

Amendment 66
Alfred Sant

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 36

Text proposed by the Commission

(36) The Union contributes to ensuring a high level of consumer protection, empowering consumers and putting them at the heart of the internal market by supporting and complementing Member States' policies in seeking to ensure that citizens when acting as consumers can fully reap the benefits of the internal market and that, in so doing, their safety and legal and economic interests are properly protected by means of concrete actions. The Union has also to ensure that consumer and product safety laws are properly and equally enforced on the ground and that businesses enjoy a level playing field with fair competition in the internal market. Moreover, it is necessary to empower, encourage and assist consumers in making sustainable choices, thus contributing to a sustainable, energy and resource efficient and circular economy.

Amendment

(36) The Union contributes to ensuring a high level of consumer protection, empowering consumers and putting them at the heart of the internal market by supporting and complementing Member States' policies in seeking to ensure that citizens when acting as consumers can fully reap the benefits of the internal market and that, in so doing, their safety and legal and economic interests are properly protected by means of concrete actions. The Union has also to ensure that consumer and product safety laws are properly and equally enforced on the ground and that businesses enjoy a level playing field with fair competition in the internal market. Moreover, it is necessary to empower, encourage and assist consumers in making sustainable choices, thus contributing to a sustainable, energy and resource efficient and circular economy ***which follows the goals set under the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.***

Or. en

Amendment 67
Alfred Sant

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 41

Text proposed by the Commission

(41) Citizens are particularly affected by the functioning of financial services markets. These are a key component of the

Amendment

(41) Citizens are particularly affected by the functioning of financial services markets ***and should, therefore, be further***

internal market and require a solid framework for regulation and supervision which ensures not only financial stability and a sustainable economy, but also provides a high level of protection to consumers and other financial services end users, including retail investors, savers, insurance policyholders, pension fund members and beneficiaries, individual shareholders, borrowers and SMEs. It is important to enhance their capacity to participate in policy making for the financial sector.

informed on pertinent rights, risks and benefits. These are a key component of the internal market and require a solid framework for regulation and supervision which ensures not only financial stability and a sustainable economy, but also provides a high level of protection to consumers and other financial services end users, including retail investors, savers, insurance policyholders, pension fund members and beneficiaries, individual shareholders, borrowers and SMEs. It is important to enhance their capacity to participate in policy making for the financial sector.

Or. en

Amendment 68

Romana Tomc

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 41

Text proposed by the Commission

(41) Citizens are particularly affected by the functioning of financial services markets. These are a key component of the internal market and require a solid framework for regulation and supervision which ensures not only financial stability and a sustainable economy, but also provides a high level of protection to consumers and other financial services end users, including retail investors, savers, insurance policyholders, pension fund members and beneficiaries, individual shareholders, borrowers and SMEs. ***It is important to*** enhance their capacity to participate in policy making for the financial sector.

Amendment

(41) Citizens are particularly affected by the functioning of financial services markets. These are a key component of the internal market and require a solid framework for regulation and supervision which ensures not only financial stability and a sustainable economy, but also provides a high level of protection to consumers and other financial services end users, including retail investors, savers, insurance policyholders, pension fund members and beneficiaries, individual shareholders, borrowers and SMEs. ***The Programme should*** enhance their capacity to participate in policy making for the financial sector.

Or. en

Amendment 69
Olle Ludvigsson

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 42

Text proposed by the Commission

(42) The Programme should therefore continue to support the specific activities covered by the 2017-2020 Capacity-Building Programme enhancing the involvement of consumers and other financial services end-users in Union policy-making, as set out in Regulation (EU) 2017/826 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁶⁰ which continued the pilot programme and preparatory action of the years 2012-2017. This is necessary in order to provide policy makers with views from stakeholders other than financial sector professionals and ensure a better representation of the interests of consumers and other financial services end-users. This should result in better financial services policies, notably thanks to a better public understanding of the issues at stake in financial regulation and enhanced financial literacy.

⁶⁰ Regulation (EU) 2017/826 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2017 on establishing a Union programme to support specific activities enhancing the involvement of consumers and other financial services end-users in Union policy-making in the area of financial services for the period 2017-2020 (OJ L 129, 19.5.2017, p.17).

Amendment

(42) The Programme should therefore continue to support the specific activities covered by the 2017-2020 Capacity-Building Programme enhancing the involvement of consumers and other financial services end-users in Union policy-making, as set out in Regulation (EU) 2017/826 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁶⁰ which continued the pilot programme and preparatory action of the years 2012-2017. This is necessary in order to provide policy makers with views from stakeholders other than financial sector professionals and ensure a better representation of the interests of consumers and other financial services end-users. ***The programme shall continuously develop its methodology and best practices on how to increase the engagement of consumers and financial-services end-users in order to identify issues relevant for Union policy-making and ensuring the interests of consumers in the area of financial services.*** This should result in better financial services policies, notably thanks to a better public understanding of the issues at stake in financial regulation and enhanced financial literacy.

⁶⁰ Regulation (EU) 2017/826 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2017 on establishing a Union programme to support specific activities enhancing the involvement of consumers and other financial services end-users in Union policy-making in the area of financial services for the period 2017-2020 (OJ L 129, 19.5.2017, p.17).

Amendment 70
Paloma López Bermejo

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 44

Text proposed by the Commission

(44) A high level of health protection through the food supply chain is necessary to allow the internal market to operate efficiently. A safe and sustainable food supply chain is a prerequisite for society and for the internal market. Cross border health crises and food scares disrupt the functioning of the internal market by limiting the movements of persons and goods and disrupting production.

Amendment

(44) A high level of health protection through the food supply chain is necessary to allow the internal market to operate efficiently. A safe and sustainable food supply chain is a prerequisite for society and for the internal market. ***The food supply chain guarantee must be based on an sustainable, organic and local agricultural economy.*** Cross border health crises and food scares disrupt the functioning of the internal market by limiting the movements of persons and goods and disrupting production.

Amendment 71
Alfred Sant

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 49

Text proposed by the Commission

(49) European statistics are indispensable for Union decision-making and for the measurement of the performance and impact of Union initiatives. Therefore, the continued provision and development of European statistics, taking a Union-wide approach and going beyond an internal market perspective should be ensured in order to cover all Union activities and policy areas, including empowering businesses ***and***

Amendment

(49) European statistics are indispensable for Union decision-making and for the measurement of the performance and impact of Union initiatives. Therefore, the continued provision and development of European statistics, taking a Union-wide approach and going beyond an internal market perspective should be ensured in order to cover all Union activities and policy areas, including empowering ***citizens and***

citizens to take informed decisions.

businesses to take informed decisions,
*specifically in the framework of the
programme dealing with the social
dimension of Europe and its stated
objective to support the European Pillar
of Social Rights.*

Or. en

Amendment 72

Alfred Sant

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 52

Text proposed by the Commission

(52) The Union and Member States are committed to the implementation of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. By contributing to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda, the Union and Member States will foster a stronger, more sustainable, inclusive, secure and prosperous Europe. The Programme should contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, including by balancing the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development.

Amendment

(52) The Union and Member States are committed to the implementation of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. By contributing to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda, the Union and Member States will foster a stronger, more sustainable, inclusive, secure and prosperous Europe. ***Internal Market policies should be predetermined by this guided principle.*** The Programme should contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, including by balancing the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development.

Or. en

Amendment 73

Paloma López Bermejo

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 53

Text proposed by the Commission

(53) Reflecting the importance of tackling climate change in line with the

Amendment

(53) Reflecting the importance of tackling climate change in line with the

Union's commitments to implement the Paris Agreement and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, this Programme should contribute to mainstream climate actions and to the achievement of an overall target of 25 % of the Union budget expenditures supporting climate objectives. Relevant actions will be identified during the Programme's preparation and implementation, and reassessed in the context of the relevant evaluations and review processes.

Union's commitments to implement the Paris Agreement and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, this Programme should contribute to mainstream climate actions and to the achievement of an overall target of 25 % of the Union budget expenditures supporting climate objectives. ***In line with that objective, the programme should be given the means it needs primarily to rule out, or, where appropriate, to minimise financial or any other support for proposals that are inconsistent with the objectives of the Paris Agreement on climate change or the UN Sustainable Development Goals.*** Relevant actions will be identified during the Programme's preparation and implementation, and reassessed in the context of the relevant evaluations and review processes.

Or. es

Amendment 74 **Alfred Sant**

Proposal for a regulation **Recital 60**

Text proposed by the Commission

(60) Considering the increasing interconnectivity of the world economy, the Programme should continue to provide the possibility of involving external experts, such as officials of third countries, representatives of international organisations or economic operators in certain activities.

Amendment

(60) Considering the increasing interconnectivity of the world ***economy, including the digital*** economy, the Programme should continue to provide the possibility of involving external experts, such as officials of third countries, representatives of international organisations or economic operators in certain activities.

Or. en

Amendment 75

Alfred Sant

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 63

Text proposed by the Commission

(63) This Programme should contribute to the overall support addressing specific needs of outermost regions and their integration in the internal market, as recently reconfirmed in the Commission's Communication "A stronger and renewed strategic partnership with the EU's outermost regions"⁶⁶.

⁶⁶ COM(2017) 623 final

Amendment

(63) This Programme should contribute to the overall support addressing specific needs of outermost regions and their integration in the internal market, as recently reconfirmed in the Commission's Communication "A stronger and renewed strategic partnership with the EU's outermost regions"⁶⁶. ***The same approach should be applied to geographical areas which suffer from permanent natural or demographic handicaps as referred to in Article 174 TFEU.***

⁶⁶ COM(2017) 623 final

Or. en

Amendment 76
Paloma López Bermejo

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 69 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(69a) Within two years, the Commission should draw up a report on the efforts made to identify synergies with the programmes referred to in recitals 64, 65, 66, 67, 68 and 69, and on the outcomes thereof. The report should be submitted to the European Parliament and to the Council.

Or. es

Amendment 77
Alfred Sant

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 71

Text proposed by the Commission

(71) Where relevant the Programme's actions should be used to address market failures or sub-optimal investment situations, in a proportionate manner, without duplicating or crowding out private financing and have a clear European added value.

Amendment

(71) Where relevant the Programme's actions should be used to address market failures or sub-optimal investment situations, ***with special consideration to the peripheral regions of the EU***, in a proportionate manner, without duplicating or crowding out private financing and have a clear European added value.

Or. en

Amendment 78
Alfred Sant

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 74

Text proposed by the Commission

(74) To ensure regular monitoring and reporting, a proper framework for monitoring the actions and results of the Programme should be put in place from the very beginning. Such monitoring and reporting should be based on indicators, measuring the effects of the actions under the Programme against pre-defined baselines.

Amendment

(74) To ensure regular monitoring and reporting, a proper framework for monitoring the actions and results of the Programme should be put in place from the very beginning. Such monitoring and reporting should be based on indicators, measuring the effects of the actions under the Programme against pre-defined baselines ***founded on the market size where potential beneficiaries are located***.

Or. en

Amendment 79
Alfred Sant

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 81

Text proposed by the Commission

(81) Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁹⁰ governs the processing of personal data carried out in the Member States in the context of this Regulation and under the supervision of the Member States competent authorities. Regulation (EC) 45/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁹¹ governs the processing of personal data carried out by the Commission within the framework of this Regulation and under the supervision of the European Data Protection Supervisor. Any exchange or transmission of information by competent authorities is to comply with the rules on the transfer of personal data as laid down in Regulation (EU) 2016/679 and any exchange or transmission of information by the Commission is to comply with the rules on the transfer of personal data as laid down in Regulation (EC) No 45/2001.

⁹⁰ Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (General Data Protection Regulation) (OJ L 119, 4.5.2016, p. 1).

⁹¹ Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2000 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by the Community institutions and bodies and on the free movement of such data (OJ L 8, 12.1.2001,

Amendment

(81) Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁹⁰ governs the processing of personal data carried out in the Member States in the context of this Regulation and under the supervision of the Member States competent authorities. Regulation (EC) 45/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁹¹ governs the processing of personal data carried out by the Commission within the framework of this Regulation and under the supervision of the European Data Protection Supervisor. Any exchange or transmission of information by competent authorities, ***including in the process of developing and disseminating statistics where the principle of statistical confidentiality is also recognised through Regulation (EC) No223/2009***, is to comply with the rules on the transfer of personal data as laid down in Regulation (EU) 2016/679 and any exchange or transmission of information by the Commission is to comply with the rules on the transfer of personal data as laid down in Regulation (EC) No 45/2001.

⁹⁰ Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (General Data Protection Regulation) (OJ L 119, 4.5.2016, p. 1).

⁹¹ Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2000 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by the Community institutions and bodies and on the free movement of such data (OJ L 8, 12.1.2001,

p. 1).

p. 1).

Or. en

Amendment 80

Alfred Sant

Proposal for a regulation

Article 1 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

This Regulation establishes the programme for improving the functioning of the internal market **and** the competitiveness of enterprises, including micro, small and medium-sized enterprises and the framework for financing of development, production and dissemination of European statistics within the meaning of Article 13 of Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 (the 'Programme').

Amendment

This Regulation establishes the programme for improving the functioning of the internal market **to the benefit of all EU citizens and, in this respect,** the competitiveness of enterprises, including micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, **financial services,** and the framework for financing of development, production and dissemination of European statistics within the meaning of Article 13 of Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 (the 'Programme').

Or. en

Amendment 81

Paloma López Bermejo

Proposal for a regulation

Article 1 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

This Regulation establishes the programme for improving the functioning of the internal market and the competitiveness of enterprises, including micro, small and medium-sized enterprises and the framework for financing of development, production and dissemination of European statistics within the meaning of Article 13 of Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 (the 'Programme').

Amendment

This Regulation establishes the programme for improving the functioning of the internal market and the competitiveness of enterprises, **social enterprises and social enterprise networks** including micro, small and medium-sized enterprises and the framework for financing of development, production and dissemination of European statistics within the meaning of Article 13 of Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 (the

'Programme').

Or. es

Amendment 82

Paloma López Bermejo

Proposal for a regulation

Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 1 – point a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(a) ***‘Social enterprise’ means an enterprise the main objective of which is to meet a social need before making a private profit. A social enterprise may operate in the environmental, social, care and educational sectors. An enterprise shall be regarded as social where the distribution of profits is limited, where its operating practices include the participation of users and beneficiaries, and where gender-based equal opportunities are guaranteed.***

Or. es

Amendment 83

Paloma López Bermejo

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 1 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(a) to improve the functioning of the internal market, and especially to protect and empower citizens, consumers and businesses, in particular micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), by enforcement of Union law, facilitation of market access, standard setting, and by promoting human, animal and plant health and animal welfare; as well as to enhance

(a) to improve ***and correct*** the functioning of the internal market, and especially to protect and empower citizens, ***workers***, consumers and businesses, in particular micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), by enforcement of Union law, ***the creation of quality jobs***, facilitation of market access, standard setting, and by promoting human, animal

cooperation between the competent authorities of Member States and between the competent authorities of Member States and the Commission and the decentralised Union agencies;

and plant health and animal welfare; as well as to enhance cooperation between the competent authorities of Member States and between the competent authorities of Member States and the Commission and the decentralised Union agencies;

Or. es

Amendment 84

Alfred Sant

Proposal for a regulation **Article 3 – paragraph 1 – point b**

Text proposed by the Commission

(b) to provide high-quality, comparable **and** reliable statistics on Europe which underpin the design, monitoring and evaluation of all the Union policies and help policy makers, businesses, academia, **citizens** and media to make informed decisions and actively participate in the democratic process.

Amendment

(b) to provide high-quality, comparable, reliable, **and well-timed** statistics on Europe, **as well as on pertinent issues that impact the internal market, such as those related to trade and migration**, which underpin the design, monitoring and evaluation of all the Union policies and help **citizens**, policy makers, businesses, academia, and media to make informed decisions and actively participate in the democratic process.

Or. en

Amendment 85

Paloma López Bermejo

Proposal for a regulation **Article 3 – paragraph 2 – point a**

Text proposed by the Commission

(a) making the internal market more effective, facilitating the prevention and removal of obstacles, supporting the development, implementation and enforcement of the Union law in the areas

Amendment

(a) making the internal market more effective, **environmentally sustainable and socially inclusive, and gearing it** towards facilitating the prevention and removal of obstacles, supporting the development,

of the internal market for goods and services, public procurement, market surveillance as well as in the areas of company law and contract and extra-contractual law, anti-money laundering, free movement of capital, financial services and competition, including the development of governance tools;

implementation and enforcement of the Union law in the areas of the internal market for goods and services, public procurement, market surveillance as well as in the areas of company law and contract and extra-contractual law, anti-money laundering, free movement of capital, financial services and competition, including the development of governance tools;

Or. es

Amendment 86
Alfred Sant

Proposal for a regulation
Article 3 – paragraph 2 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

(a) making the internal market more effective, facilitating the prevention and removal of obstacles, supporting the development, implementation and enforcement of the Union law in the areas of the internal market for goods and services, public procurement, market surveillance as well as in the areas of company law and contract and extra-contractual law, anti-money laundering, free movement of capital, financial services and competition, including the development of governance tools;

Amendment

(a) making the internal market more effective, facilitating the prevention and removal of obstacles, ***including those related to geographical handicaps***, supporting the development, implementation and enforcement of the Union law in the areas of the internal market for goods and services, public procurement, market surveillance as well as in the areas of company law and contract and extra-contractual law, anti-money laundering, free movement of capital, financial services and competition, including the development of governance tools;

Or. en

Amendment 87
Alfred Sant

Proposal for a regulation
Article 3 – paragraph 2 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission

(b) improving the competitiveness of enterprises with special emphasis on SMEs and achieving additionality through the provision of measures that provide various forms of support to SMEs, access to markets including the internationalisation of SMEs, favourable business environment for SMEs, the competitiveness of sectors, the modernisation of industry and the promotion of entrepreneurship;

Amendment

(b) improving the competitiveness of enterprises with special emphasis on SMEs and achieving additionality through the provision of measures that provide various forms of support to SMEs, access to markets including the internationalisation of SMEs, favourable business environment for SMEs, the competitiveness of sectors, ***such as the tourism sector***, the modernisation of industry and the promotion of entrepreneurship;

Or. en

Amendment 88

Paloma López Bermejo

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 2 – point b a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(ba) promoting quality jobs and new opportunities for workers; fostering the involvement of workers and workers' organisations in the transformation processes that businesses are going through as a result of the ongoing digital revolution;

Or. es

Amendment 89

Alfred Sant

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 2 – point c – point ii

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(ii) support the development of high-quality international financial reporting and

(ii) support the development of high-quality international financial reporting and

auditing standards, facilitate their integration into the Union law and promote the innovation and development of best practices in corporate reporting;

auditing standards, facilitate their integration into the Union law and promote the innovation and development of best practices in corporate reporting *for both small and big companies*;

Or. en

Amendment 90

Paloma López Bermejo

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 2 – point d – point i

Text proposed by the Commission

(i) empowering, assisting and educating consumers, businesses and civil society; ensuring a high level of consumer protection, sustainable consumption and product safety notably by supporting competent enforcement authorities and consumer representative organisations and cooperation actions; ensuring that all consumers have access to redress and; provision of adequate information on markets and consumers;

Amendment

(i) empowering, assisting and educating consumers, **workers**, businesses and civil society; ensuring a high level of consumer protection, sustainable consumption and product safety notably by supporting competent enforcement authorities and consumer representative organisations and cooperation actions; ensuring that all consumers have access to redress and; provision of adequate information on markets and consumers. ***To this end, the Commission, in accordance with recital 36, shall establish a set of practices associated with the concept of empowerment, so that this criterion functions and becomes a determining factor in the allocation of resources from the programme.***

Or. es

Amendment 91

Olle Ludvigsson

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 2 – point d – point ii

Text proposed by the Commission

(ii) enhancing the participation of consumers, other financial services end-users and civil society in financial services policy-making; promoting a better understanding of the financial sector;

Amendment

(ii) enhancing the participation of consumers, other financial services end-users and civil society in financial services policy-making; promoting a better understanding of the financial sector ***and ensuring the interests of consumers in the area of retail financial services;***

Or. en

Amendment 92

Paloma López Bermejo

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 2 – point e

Text proposed by the Commission

(e) contributing to a high level of health for humans, animals and plants along the food chain and in related areas, including by preventing and eradicating diseases and pests, and to support the improvement of the welfare of animals as well as a sustainable food production and consumption;

Amendment

(e) contributing to a high level of health for humans, animals and plants along the food chain and in related areas, including by preventing and eradicating diseases and pests, and to support the improvement of the welfare of animals as well as a sustainable food production and consumption; ***fostering organic, sustainable and environmentally friendly agriculture; favouring short-cycle food chains and promoting the elimination from the food chain of risky practices and products that could be harmful to health; applying the precautionary principle when introducing new components, practices or measures; lastly, taking action to limit the market capacity of mediators in the distribution and marketing chain, whose impact clearly negatively affects both farmers' incomes and end prices for consumers;***

Or. es

Amendment 93
Paloma López Bermejo

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 2 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

(a) EUR **1 000 000 000** to the objective referred to in Article 3(2)(b);

Amendment

(a) EUR **2 000 000 000** to the objective referred to in Article 3(2)(b);

Or. es

Amendment 94
Paloma López Bermejo

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 3

Text proposed by the Commission

3. The amount referred to in paragraph 1 may be used for technical and administrative assistance for the implementation of the Programme, concerning in particular preparatory, monitoring, control, audit and evaluation activities as well as use of information technology networks focusing on information processing and exchange, and use and development of corporate information technology tools.

Amendment

3. The amount referred to in paragraph 1 may be used for technical and administrative assistance for the implementation of the Programme, concerning in particular preparatory, monitoring, control, audit and evaluation activities as well as use of information technology networks focusing on information processing and exchange, and use and development of corporate information technology tools. ***Expenditure on technical and administrative tasks must not exceed 5% of the total amount.***

Or. es

Amendment 95
Alfred Sant

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 6

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

6. Resources allocated to Member States under shared management may, at their request, be transferred to the Programme. The Commission shall implement those resources directly in accordance with point (a) of Article 62(1) of the Financial Regulation or indirectly in accordance with point (c) of that Article. Where possible those resources shall be used for the benefit of the Member State concerned.

6. Resources allocated to Member States under shared management may, at their **voluntary** request, be transferred to the Programme. The Commission shall implement those resources directly in accordance with point (a) of Article 62(1) of the Financial Regulation or indirectly in accordance with point (c) of that Article. Where possible those resources shall be used for the benefit of the Member State concerned.

Or. en

Amendment 96
Paloma López Bermejo

Proposal for a regulation
Article 5 – paragraph 1 – point d

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(d) third countries, in accordance with the conditions laid down in a specific agreement covering the participation of the third country to any Union programme, provided that the agreement:

deleted

(i) ensures a fair balance as regards the contributions and benefits of the third country participating in the Union programmes;

(ii) lays down the conditions of participation in the programmes, including the calculation of financial contributions to individual programmes and their administrative costs;

(iii) does not confer to the third country a decisional power on the programme;

(iv) guarantees the rights of the Union to ensure sound financial management and to protect its financial interests.

The contributions referred to in point (ii) shall constitute assigned revenues in

accordance with Article [21(5)] of the Financial Regulation.

Or. es

Justification

It is unclear what added value third countries can bring to this programme, especially given its limited financial options.

Amendment 97

Paloma López Bermejo

Proposal for a regulation

Article 8 – paragraph 2 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

(a) creation of the right conditions to empower all actors of the internal market, including businesses, citizens and consumers, civil society and public authorities through transparent information and awareness raising campaigns, best practice exchange, promotion of good practices, exchange and dissemination of expertise and knowledge and organization of trainings;

Amendment

(a) creation of the right conditions to empower all actors of the internal market, including businesses, ***especially micro-enterprises and small businesses, workers,*** citizens and consumers, civil society and public authorities through transparent information and awareness-raising campaigns, best practice exchange, promotion of good practices, exchange and dissemination of expertise and knowledge and organisation of training;

Or. es

Amendment 98

Alfred Sant

Proposal for a regulation

Article 8 – paragraph 2 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

(a) creation of the right conditions to empower all actors of the internal market, including ***businesses,*** citizens and consumers, civil society and public authorities through transparent information

Amendment

(a) creation of the right conditions to empower all actors of the internal market, including citizens and consumers, ***businesses,*** civil society and public authorities through transparent information

and awareness raising campaigns, best practice exchange, promotion of good practices, exchange and dissemination of expertise and knowledge and organization of trainings;

and awareness raising campaigns, best practice exchange, promotion of good practices, exchange and dissemination of expertise and knowledge and organization of trainings;

Or. en

Amendment 99

Paloma López Bermejo

Proposal for a regulation

Article 8 – paragraph 2 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission

(b) provision of mechanisms for citizens, consumers, end-users, civil society and businesses representatives from the Union to contribute to political discussions, policies and decision making process, notably by supporting the functioning of representative organisations at national and the Union level;

Amendment

(b) provision of mechanisms for citizens, consumers, end-users, **workers and their representatives**, civil society and businesses representatives from the Union to contribute to political discussions, policies and decision making process, notably by supporting the functioning of representative organisations at national and the Union level;

Or. es

Amendment 100

Alfred Sant

Proposal for a regulation

Article 8 – paragraph 2 – point d

Text proposed by the Commission

(d) support for the effective enforcement and modernisation of the Union legal framework and its rapid adaptation to the ever-changing environment, including through data gathering and analyses; studies, evaluations and policy recommendations; organization of demonstration activities and pilot

Amendment

(d) support for the effective enforcement and modernisation of the Union legal framework and its rapid adaptation to the ever-changing environment, **particularly in the digital context**, including through data gathering and analyses; studies, evaluations and policy recommendations; organization of

projects; communication activities;
development of dedicated IT tools ensuring
transparent and efficient functioning of the
internal market.

demonstration activities and pilot projects;
communication activities; development of
dedicated IT tools ensuring transparent and
efficient functioning of the internal market.

Or. en

Amendment 101

Paloma López Bermejo

Proposal for a regulation

Article 8 – paragraph 3 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

(a) to provide various forms of support
to SMEs;

Amendment

(a) to provide various forms of support
to SMEs, ***micro-enterprises, social
enterprises and enterprise networks made
up of SMEs and micro-enterprises;***

Or. es

Amendment 102

Alfred Sant

Proposal for a regulation

Article 8 – paragraph 3 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission

(b) facilitating SMEs' access to
markets, supporting them in addressing
global and societal challenges and business
internationalisation, and strengthening
Union industrial leadership in global value
chains, including the Enterprise Europe
Network;

Amendment

(b) facilitating SMEs' access to ***EU
and global*** markets, supporting them in
addressing global and societal challenges
and business internationalisation, and
strengthening Union industrial leadership
in global value chains, including the
Enterprise Europe Network;

Or. en

Amendment 103

Alfred Sant

Proposal for a regulation
Article 8 – paragraph 3 – point c

Text proposed by the Commission

(c) addressing market barriers, administrative burden and creating a favourable business environment to empower SMEs *to* benefit from the internal market;

Amendment

(c) addressing market ***barriers, including geographical*** barriers, administrative burden and creating a favourable business environment to empower SMEs ***from all EU regions to be able to equally*** benefit from the internal market;

Or. en

Amendment 104
Alfred Sant

Proposal for a regulation
Article 8 – paragraph 3 – point d

Text proposed by the Commission

(d) facilitating the growth of businesses, including skills development, and industrial transformation across manufacturing and service sectors;

Amendment

(d) facilitating the growth of businesses ***in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development***, including skills development, ***digital***, and industrial transformation across manufacturing and service sectors;

Or. en

Amendment 105
Paloma López Bermejo

Proposal for a regulation
Article 8 – paragraph 3 – point e a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(ea) seeing to it that the outcome of these actions has an impact on the creation of quality jobs and achievement of the environmental objectives

recognised by the European Union and its states.

Or. es

Amendment 106

Paloma López Bermejo

Proposal for a regulation

Article 9 – paragraph 2 – point a – point ii

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(ii) a third country associated to the Programme in accordance with Article 5;

deleted

Or. es

Amendment 107

Alfred Sant

Proposal for a regulation

Article 12 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

1. For actions implementing the specific objective referred to in Article 3(2)(a) of this Regulation with reference to market surveillance authorities of the Member States and of the third countries associated to the Programme and with reference to Union testing facilities as referred to in Article 20 of [Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down rules and procedures for compliance with and enforcement of Union harmonisation legislation on products], the Programme may finance up to 100% of eligible costs of an action, provided that the co-financing principle as defined in the Financial Regulation is not infringed.

1. For actions implementing the specific objective referred to in Article 3(2)(a) of this Regulation with reference to market surveillance authorities of the Member States and of the third countries associated to the Programme and with reference to Union testing facilities as referred to in Article 20 of [Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down rules and procedures for compliance with and enforcement of Union harmonisation legislation on products], the Programme may finance up to **a maximum of** 100% of eligible costs of an action, provided that the co-financing principle as defined in the Financial Regulation is not infringed.

Or. en

Amendment 108
Romana Tomc

Proposal for a regulation
Article 18 – paragraph 3 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

3a. In relation to expenditure in support of competition policy, and in particular to activities covered by the Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council to empower the competition authorities of the Member States to be more effective enforcers and to ensure the proper functioning of the internal market, the Commission shall include in its annual report an overview of implemented actions under this Programme to be transmitted to the European Parliament and to the Council.

Or. en

Amendment 109
Alfred Sant

Proposal for a regulation
Annex II – indent 5

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

– better measuring of trade in services, foreign direct investment, global value chains and the impact of globalisation on the Union economies.

– better measuring of trade in **goods and** services, foreign direct investment, global value chains and the impact of globalisation on the Union economies.

Or. en

Amendment 110
Alfred Sant

Proposal for a regulation
Annex II – indent 8

Text proposed by the Commission

– providing high quality, timely and reliable statistics to support the European Pillar of Social Rights and the Union Skills Policy, including statistics on the labour market, employment, education and training, income, living conditions, poverty, inequality, social protection, undeclared work and satellite accounts on skills;

Amendment

– providing high quality, timely and reliable statistics to support the European Pillar of Social Rights and the Union Skills Policy, including, ***but not exclusive to***, statistics on the labour market, employment, education and training, income, living conditions, poverty, inequality, social protection, undeclared work and satellite accounts on skills;

Or. en

Amendment 111
Alfred Sant

Proposal for a regulation
Annex II – indent 19

Text proposed by the Commission

– providing timely and comprehensive statistical indicators on regions, including the Union outermost regions, cities and rural areas to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of territorial development policies, and to evaluate the territorial impacts of sectoral policies;

Amendment

– providing timely and comprehensive statistical indicators on regions, including the Union outermost regions, ***islands***, cities and rural areas to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of territorial development policies, and to evaluate the territorial impacts of sectoral policies;

Or. en

Amendment 112
Alfred Sant

Proposal for a regulation
Annex II – indent 22

Text proposed by the Commission

– systematically promoting European

Amendment

– systematically promoting European

statistics as a trustworthy source of evidence and facilitating fact checkers, researchers and public authorities to use it in tackling disinformation online;

statistics as a trustworthy source of evidence and facilitating fact checkers, *especially in the context of an ongoing fake news climax*, researchers and public authorities to use it in tackling disinformation online;

Or. en

Amendment 113
Alfred Sant

Proposal for a regulation
Annex II – indent 32

Text proposed by the Commission

– *cooperating* with international organisations and third countries for the benefit of global official statistics.

Amendment

– *building on the ongoing cooperation* with international organisations and third countries for the benefit of global official statistics.

Or. en