



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2009 - 2014

Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection

2012/2150(INI)

19.9.2012

OPINION

of the Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection

for the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs

on European Semester for economic policy coordination: implementation of
2012 priorities
(2012/2150(INI))

Rapporteur: Malcolm Harbour

PA_NonLeg

SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection calls on the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions in its motion for a resolution:

- having regard to its resolution of 14 June 2012 on Single Market Act: The Next Steps To Growth¹,
 - having regard to its resolution of 20 May 2010 on delivering a Single Market to consumers and citizens²,
- A. whereas the Single Market is needed more than ever as a means to revitalise the European economy, by providing a concrete response to the crisis and acting as an instrument to promote competitiveness and preserve social welfare;
1. Considers that the European Semester must focus on the aim of fostering smart, sustainable and inclusive growth, competitiveness, employment and territorial and social cohesion by overcoming internal imbalances and producing converging dynamics among Member States' economies;
 2. Underlines the need to fully take into account the Europe 2020 Strategy in the implementation of the European Semester;
 3. Urges the Commission to make Single Market governance a key priority, since it contributes substantially to reaching the targets of the European Semester, namely sustainable economic growth and employment; takes the view that the Commission's country-specific recommendations should, at the same time, offer the Member States more practical solutions for improving the functioning of the Single Market, so that stronger public support and political commitment are created to encourage the completion of this Single Market;
 4. Calls on the Council and the Commission to link the European Semester to the Single Market Act in order to secure the coherence of European economic policy and the creation of sustainable growth;
 5. Emphasises that the initiatives taken in the framework of the Single Market Act must be consistent with, and contribute to, achieving the objectives of the seven flagship initiatives of the Europe 2020 Strategy for a smart, sustainable and inclusive growth;
 6. Welcomes the Commissions' proposal to prepare an annual report on the integration of the Single Market in the framework of the European Semester in order to measure the functioning of the Single Market, identify the main policy challenges and set priorities for action; believes that this will help guarantee a level playing field throughout the Union;
 7. Emphasises that this assessment should examine how citizens, workers, consumers and

¹ Texts adopted, P7_TA-PROV(2012)0258.

² Texts adopted, P7_TA(2010)0186.

businesses alike benefit from the Single Market and tackle obstacles in its performance; acknowledges that the dialogue with social partners, national parliaments and civil society plays an essential role in restoring confidence in the Single Market; invites, therefore, citizens and businesses to make suggestions on how best to achieve the full realisation of the Single Market;

8. Calls on the Commission to coordinate the annual report on the integration of the Single Market with other Single Market monitoring instruments, such as the Internal Market Scoreboard, in order to avoid overlap and to produce efficient and clear recommendations and to secure the coherence of European economic policy;
9. Lauds in this context the Commissions' proposal to define country-specific recommendations relating to the Single Market, especially concerning correct transposition of legislation and transposition deadlines; calls on the Commission to step up its actions in ensuring the proper implementation and enforcement of EU legislation in the Member States by making determined use of all its powers;
10. Reiterates the need to reduce the transposition deficit of Single Market directives and emphasises the key role of full, uniform, timely and correct transposition for citizens and businesses to be able to fully benefit from the Single Market; supports the setting up of a network of civil servants at Member States level, coordinated by the Commission, in charge of the implementation of all new EU legislation to improve the overall quality of the implementation;
11. Urges the Commission and the Member States to give priority to the adoption of the 12 key actions of the Single Market Act, as an important contribution to strengthening the Single Market in a comprehensive and balanced manner.

RESULT OF FINAL VOTE IN COMMITTEE

Date adopted	17.9.2012
Result of final vote	+: 27 -: 1 0: 0
Members present for the final vote	Adam Bielan, Jorgo Chatzimarkakis, Birgit Collin-Langen, Lara Comi, Anna Maria Corazza Bildt, Cornelis de Jong, Vicente Miguel Garcés Ramón, Małgorzata Handzlik, Malcolm Harbour, Sandra Kalniete, Toine Manders, Hans-Peter Mayer, Phil Prendergast, Mitro Repo, Heide Rühle, Christel Schaldemose, Andreas Schwab, Catherine Stihler, Róza Gräfin von Thun und Hohenstein, Gino Trematerra, Bernadette Vergnaud, Barbara Weiler
Substitute(s) present for the final vote	Regina Bastos, Constance Le Grip, Olga Sehnalová, Sabine Verheyen
Substitute(s) under Rule 187(2) present for the final vote	Silvia Costa, Jutta Steinruck