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*Plenary sitting*

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**B8-0558/2018**

5.12.2018

## MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

to wind up the debate on the statement by the Commission

pursuant to Rule 123(2) of the Rules of Procedure

on the single market package  
(2018/2903(RSP))

**Andreas Schwab**  
on behalf of the PPE Group

**European Parliament resolution on the single market package  
(2018/2903(RSP))**

*The European Parliament,*

- having regard to the Commission communication of 28 October 2015 entitled ‘Upgrading the Single Market: more opportunities for people and business’ (COM(2015)0550),
- having regard to the Commission staff working document of 28 October 2015 entitled ‘Report on single market integration and competitiveness in the EU and its Member States’ (SWD(2015)0203),
- having regard to the Commission communication of 6 May 2015 entitled ‘A digital single market strategy for Europe’ (COM(2015)0192),
- having regard to the Commission communication of 13 April 2011 entitled ‘Single Market Act – Twelve levers to boost growth and strengthen confidence – Working together to create new growth’ (COM(2011)0206),
- having regard to the Commission communication of 3 October 2012 entitled ‘Single Market Act II – Together for new growth’ (COM(2012)0573),
- having regard to the report of 9 May 2010 by Mario Monti to the President of the Commission entitled ‘A New Strategy for the Single Market – At the Service of Europe’s Economy and Society’,
- having regard to its resolution of 11 March 2015 on single market governance within the European Semester 2015<sup>1</sup>,
- having regard to its study of September 2014, commissioned by the Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection, entitled ‘The cost of non-Europe in the single market’,
- having regard to its study of January 2016, commissioned by the Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection, entitled ‘A strategy for completing the single market: the trillion euro bonus’,
- having regard to its resolution of 26 May 2016 on non-tariff barriers in the single market<sup>2</sup>, based on a report by the Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection,
- having regard to its resolution of 26 May 2016 on the single market strategy<sup>3</sup>, based on

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<sup>1</sup> OJ C 316, 30.8.2016, p. 98.

<sup>2</sup> OJ C 76, 28.2.2018, p. 105.

<sup>3</sup> OJ C 76, 28.2.2018, p. 112.

- a report by the Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection,
- having regard to the Commission communication of 10 May 2017 entitled ‘Mid-Term Review on the implementation of the Digital Single Market Strategy – A Connected Digital Single Market for All’ (COM(2017)0228),
  - having regard to the Commission communication of 22 November 2018 entitled ‘The Single Market in a changing world – A unique asset in need of renewed political commitment’ (COM(2018)0772),
  - having regard to Rule 123(2) of its Rules of Procedure,
- A. whereas the single market has been, and remains, the basis for Europe’s economic success, the cornerstone of European integration and an engine of growth and jobs;
- B. whereas the single market is not fully exploiting its potential;
- C. whereas, according to Parliament’s own research, the anticipated gain from completing the single market stands at EUR 1 trillion;
- D. whereas a strategic approach is needed, and whereas the response to the challenges faced should be as much political as technical in nature;
1. Welcomes the overall objectives of the Commission communication on the single market in a changing world, just months before the European elections of 2019 and on the 25th anniversary of the single market;
  2. Emphasises that while the economic element alone cannot be sufficient, a well-functioning single market is one of the essential foundations of the European Union, and the deepening of the single market should therefore be brought back to the top of the political agenda, as it ensures freedom, opportunity and prosperity for Europe and brings its benefits to over 500 million Europeans and over 21 million SMEs;
  3. Emphasises the urgent need to eliminate the remaining barriers from the single market in order to achieve tangible and quick results in terms of growth, innovation, job creation, consumer choice and new business models;
  4. Believes that deeper integration requires more political courage and commitment than 25 years ago and greater efforts to close the gap between rhetoric and delivery;
  5. Is convinced that in order to achieve deeper integration a level playing field is key, with the same rules for all players in all Member States;
  6. Notes that only 7 % of SMEs offer goods and services online to customers in other Member States and only 15 % of consumers make use of this possibility, and points out that through the completion of the digital single market more than EUR 415 billion could be gained and many jobs could be created if the EU made use of its full potential in this area;
  7. Urges the outdated separation of the ‘digital’ single market from the ‘offline’ single market to be stopped, as digital solutions are an indispensable part of the modern

economy and the products and services it provides, and every aspect of the single market should be digitally fit;

8. Believes that in order to defend and deepen the single market it is crucial to strongly defend the four freedoms, namely the free movement of people, services, products and capital both physically and online, and stresses that all EU actors need to play by commonly agreed rules;
9. Points out that new legislation should consistently reflect the market integration ambition, the need to reduce regulatory and administrative barriers and the need to be future-proof;
10. Recalls that one harmonised rule at EU level reduces administrative burdens in all Member States as it replaces 28 diverging rules in the single market; stresses that, just as the EU is resisting protectionism outside the EU, it should resist fragmentation within its own borders;
11. Points out that the single market is increasingly coming under pressure from national rules that run counter to EU law, especially rules at national level that impact on the free movement of goods and services (for example through gold-plating);
12. Stresses that it is important to ensure that rules deliver in practice: citizens and businesses can only enjoy the many benefits of the single market if the rules that have been jointly agreed actually work in practice;
13. Urges the Commission to make better use of existing instruments to take action against national rules that challenge the single market;
14. Acknowledges that the single market governance structure clearly needs to be strengthened with a view to ensuring effective monitoring mechanisms and detecting inadequate transposition of single market legislation or inadequate implementation and application, thus ensuring that infringement procedures are applied where necessary;
15. Strongly supports the Commission's invitation to the European Council to dedicate an in-depth discussion at the level of heads of state or government to the single market in all its dimensions, with a view to identifying common priorities for action and appropriate mechanisms to match the much-needed renewed political commitment to the single market;
16. Urges the next Commission, in view of the upcoming political term 2019-2024, to ambitiously plan single market actions and to present legislative proposals in a timely manner so that both co-legislators have sufficient time to examine and, where appropriate, adopt them;
17. Instructs its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission and the governments and parliaments of the Member States.