

Subject file:

Single Market Governance within the European Semester

IMCO prepared a first own-initiative report on ***Governance of the Single Market within the European Semester*** which was adopted in plenary on 25 February 2014 (Rapporteur: Sergio Gaetano Cofferati (S&D)). It reiterated the need for a Single Market governance cycle to constitute a substantial pillar of the European Semester, and made a number of suggestions with regard to the key sectors with the highest growth potential (services, financial services, energy, transport, and digital markets) and to the existing Single Market instruments - including the ***Online Single Market Scoreboard***).

Procedure file:

[http://www.europarl.europa.eu/oeil/popups/ficheprocedure.do?reference=2013/2194\(INI\)&l=en](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/oeil/popups/ficheprocedure.do?reference=2013/2194(INI)&l=en)

To support IMCO's future work in this areas, two studies have been requested via the Parliament's research units: the first on the ***Cost of non-Europe***, updating whenever possible the Cecchini report that was published in 1988 and focusing on such areas as consumer acquis, public procurement, services and construction materials, and the second on ***Indicators for measuring performance of the Single Market***, evaluating the existing tools and reflecting on the possible improvements. Both studies were delivered in September 2014.

On 22 January 2015, IMCO adopted its new report on ***Single Market governance within the European Semester 2015*** (Rapporteur: Ildikó Gáll-Pelcz (EPP)), providing its recommendations on how to improve the governance of the Single Market and on the key sectors that must be strengthened. The report reiterates the Parliament's call to integrate the Single Market in the European Semester and calls for further action in key sectors such as digital single market, free movement of goods and services. A special Single Market pillar within European Semester, a set of analytical tools to measure Single Market performance as well as a Single Market Gap indicator are among the key suggestions put forward by the report in respect of the means to improve the governance of the Single Market. These should be coupled with better implementation and enforcement of EU rules, the report underlined. The report was adopted in plenary on 11 March 2015 with a view to the Spring European Council meeting.

Procedure file:

[http://www.europarl.europa.eu/oeil/popups/ficheprocedure.do?reference=2014/2212\(INI\)&l=en](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/oeil/popups/ficheprocedure.do?reference=2014/2212(INI)&l=en)

On 25 January 2016, IMCO adopted its fourth report on ***Single Market (SM) Governance within the European Semester 2016*** (Rapporteur: Catherine Stihler (S&D)). The IMCO report is drawn annually as part of set of reports on the European Semester, prepared by ECON,

BUDG, EMPL Committees ahead of the Spring European Council. The IMCO report repeats a call for inclusion of Single Market pillar within the European Semester and outlines its design: it should comprise a system for regular monitoring and evaluation, an annual assessment of progress on SM integration and competitiveness, specific sections on Single Market in the Annual Growth Survey and in Country Specific Recommendations, and a regular structured SM compliance dialogue with Member States. The report highlights a number of areas where progress is needed, such as non-tariff obstacles, public procurement (e-procurement, implementation of the Public Procurement Directive), Services Directive, public-private partnership, e-administration, new business models and sharing economy, circular economy, Digital Single Market and interoperability. The report underlines importance of implementing in proper and timely fashion already existing EU SM legislation and enforcing it, as well as the need to strengthen and better connect the existing market surveillance authorities.

Procedure file:

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