

EN  
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Answer given by Mr Breton  
on behalf of the European Commission  
(25.6.2021)

Thanks to the increased budget for the Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs (EYE)<sup>1</sup> within the Single Market Programme<sup>2</sup>, the Commission estimates that about 40% more business exchanges between new and host entrepreneurs will take place. The geographical extension of the programme to countries outside of Europe, EYE Global, has started in 2018 thanks to additional resources received from the European Parliament. In addition to 39 European destinations, 6 non-European destinations<sup>3</sup> are now also available for European new entrepreneurs.

The EU SME strategy aims at reducing regulatory burden on small businesses. The communication on better regulation<sup>4</sup> proposes improvements to the EU law-making process, including introducing the “one in, one out” approach. This approach is a target through which the Commission wants to ensure that administrative costs do not increase. The Fit4future platform with a strong SME presence helps the Commission to simplify EU laws and reduce related costs.

The Commission’s impact assessment process<sup>5</sup> requires an analysis of impacts on small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to be included in every impact assessment report on new legislative proposals. Moreover, the SME Test will be systematically applied to ensure that new legislative initiatives do not impose disproportionate burden on SMEs.

The reports must now also reflect the various effects of the COVID-19 crisis. The Regulatory Scrutiny Board will scrutinise impact assessments and evaluations in the light of appropriate consideration of the effects of the COVID-19 crisis.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.erasmus-entrepreneurs.eu/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/690>

<sup>3</sup> Canada, USA, Israel, Singapore, South Korea and Taiwan

<sup>4</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/info/files/better-regulation-joining-forces-make-better-laws\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/files/better-regulation-joining-forces-make-better-laws_en)

<sup>5</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/law-making-process/planning-and-proposing-law/impact-assessments\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/law-making-process/planning-and-proposing-law/impact-assessments_en)