

**Question for written answer E-000904/2022
to the Commission**

Rule 138

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Subject: Including microenterprises in analyses carried out using the Digital Economy and Society Index

All surveys carried out using the Digital Economy and Society Index (DESI) have sampled, in accordance with the methodological notes, a minimum percentage of companies and excluded those with fewer than 10 employees. As a result, the index does not provide a reliable snapshot of the situation in Italy and Europe as the companies in its sample represent only around 5% of Italian firms and just over 7% of European firms, and so leave us in the dark as to the level of digitalisation of the remaining 95% of our companies.

In the light of the above:

1. How will the Commission solve the issue of gauging the level of digitalisation of European companies?
2. How will it assess the effectiveness of measures and reforms in the national recovery and resilience plans, which are supposed to dedicate at least 20% of spending under Next Generation EU to digitalisation, using an index that leaves out 93% of European companies?
3. What can be done so that the DESI index also includes companies with fewer than 10 employees?