



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2009 – 2014

Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs

2010/2055(INI)

3.6.2010

OPINION

of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs

for the Committee on Legal Affairs

on the interconnection of business registers
(2010/2055(INI))

Rapporteur: Hans-Peter Martin

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SUGGESTIONS

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

1. Welcomes the fact that the Commission has carried out a consultation on possible alternative arrangements for providing better cross-border access to information about companies in the EU;
2. Acknowledges that improved access to up-to-date, official cross-border information about companies can lead to greater transparency for the public and for companies themselves and to greater efficiency and legal certainty in the internal market;
3. Notes that greater transparency in the internal market could lead to increased cross-border investment;
4. Acknowledges the increasing need for such access and for an improved network linking Member States' company registers;
5. Points out that the Stoiber working party has shown that facilitating cross-border electronic access to business information could generate annual savings of more than EUR 160 million;
6. Takes the view that an integrated European solution to this problem must be achieved; insists, however, that any such European solution must be user-friendly, clear, comprehensible for the public and economically efficient and help to reduce red tape; the details of such a solution should be determined in a regulation and the active involvement of the European Parliament has to be ensured;
7. Notes that the creation of interconnections between company registers should not increase the administrative burden on companies but, on the contrary, decrease it;
8. Insists that any European solution must guarantee members of the public and companies adequate protection of personal and commercial data in order to prevent the misuse of such data and to guarantee legal safety in the case of sensitive data;
9. Urges that any integrated European solution must in particular take account of the extent to which national registers or existing European registers covering some sectors of the economy could be closed down, adapted or merged in order to prevent duplication of work, in keeping with the objective of reducing red tape and ensuring clarity and simplicity;
10. Calls, in the spirit of the single market, for relevant documents that are available in one Member State to be accessible in all the other Member States via a central portal that is accessible Europe-wide.

RESULT OF FINAL VOTE IN COMMITTEE

Date adopted	2.6.2010
Result of final vote	+: 29 -: 0 0: 12
Members present for the final vote	Burkhard Balz, Godfrey Bloom, Sharon Bowles, Udo Bullmann, Pascal Canfin, George Sabin Cutaş, Leonardo Domenici, Diogo Feio, Markus Ferber, Elisa Ferreira, Vicky Ford, José Manuel García-Margallo y Marfil, Jean-Paul Gauzès, Sven Giegold, Sylvie Goulard, Enikő Győri, Liem Hoang Ngoc, Othmar Karas, Jürgen Klute, Werner Langen, Astrid Lulling, Hans-Peter Martin, Arlene McCarthy, Sławomir Witold Nitras, Ivari Padar, Rolandas Paksas, Anni Podimata, Antolin Sánchez Presedo, Olle Schmidt, Edward Scicluna, Peter Simon, Theodor Dumitru Stolojan, Kay Swinburne, Ramon Tremosa i Balcells, Corien Wortmann-Kool
Substitute(s) present for the final vote	Sophie Auconie, Elena Băsescu, Arturs Krišjānis Kariņš, Philippe Lamberts, Gay Mitchell, Catherine Stihler