



**2020/2131(INI)**

8.9.2020

# **AMENDMENTS**

## **1 - 326**

**Draft report**  
**Paolo Borchia**  
(PE653.858v01-00)

A new strategy for European SMEs  
(2020/2131(INI))



### **Amendment 1**

**Josianne Cutajar, Łukasz Kohut, Carlos Zorrinho, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Adriana Maldonado López, Eva Kaili, Robert Hajšel, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Nicolás González Casares, Alicia Homs Ginel**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

**Citation 1 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

- *having regard to Article 3(3) TEU which refers to internal market, sustainable development and social market economy,*

Or. en

### **Amendment 2**

**Josianne Cutajar, Łukasz Kohut, Carlos Zorrinho, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Adriana Maldonado López, Eva Kaili, Robert Hajšel, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Nicolás González Casares, Alicia Homs Ginel**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

**Citation 1 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

- *having regard to the European Pillar of Social Rights,*

Or. en

### **Amendment 3**

**Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

#### **Motion for a resolution**

**Citation 8 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

- *having regard to the Paris Agreement, ratified by the European Parliament on 4 October 2016,*

**Amendment 4**  
**Henrike Hahn**  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Citation 10 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

- *having regard to the Commission communication of 10 March 2020 entitled “A New Industrial Strategy for Europe (COM(2020) 102 final),*

Or. en

**Amendment 5**  
**Patrizia Toia**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Citation 10 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

- *having regard to the Commission communication of 10 March 2020 entitled ‘A New Industrial Strategy for Europe’ (COM(2020)0102),*

Or. en

**Amendment 6**  
**Josianne Cutajar, Łukasz Kohut, Carlos Zorrinho, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Adriana Maldonado López, Eva Kaili, Robert Hajšel, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Nicolás González Casares, Alicia Homs Ginel**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Citation 10 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

- *having regard to the Commission communication of 11 December 2019 on*

*the European Green Deal  
(COM(2019)0640),*

Or. en

**Amendment 7**  
**Patrizia Toia**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Citation 10 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

- *having regard to the Commission communication of 11 March 2020 entitled ‘New Circular Economy Action Plan. For a cleaner and more competitive Europe’ (COM(2020)98),*

Or. en

**Amendment 8**  
**Josianne Cutajar, Łukasz Kohut, Carlos Zorrinho, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Adriana Maldonado López, Eva Kaili, Robert Hajšel, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Nicolás González Casares, Alicia Homs Ginel**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Citation 10 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

- *having regard to its resolution of 15 January 2020 on the European Green Deal (2019/2956(RSP)),*

Or. en

**Amendment 9**  
**Henrike Hahn**  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Citation 10 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

- ***having regard to the Commission proposal for a Circular Economy Action plan COM (2020) 98 final***

Or. en

**Amendment 10**

**Josianne Cutajar, Łukasz Kohut, Carlos Zorrinho, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Adriana Maldonado López, Eva Kaili, Robert Hajšel, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Nicolás González Casares, Alicia Homs Ginel**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Citation 10 c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

- ***having regard to the Commission communication of 19 February 2020 entitled ‘Shaping Europe’s digital future’ (COM(2020)0067),***

Or. en

**Amendment 11**

**Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**

**Citation 10 c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

- ***having regard to the Commission communication of 11 December 2019 on the European Green Deal (COM(2019)0640),***

Or. en

**Amendment 12**

**Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Citation 10 d (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

- *having regard to the Commission proposal for a Regulation of 4 March 2020 establishing the framework for achieving climate neutrality and amending Regulation (EU) 2018/1999(European Climate Law) (COM(2020) 80 final, 2020/0036(COD)),*

Or. en

**Amendment 13**

**Josianne Cutajar, Łukasz Kohut, Carlos Zorrinho, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Adriana Maldonado López, Eva Kaili, Robert Hajšel, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Nicolás González Casares, Alicia Homs Ginel**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Citation 10 d (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

- *having regard to the Commission communication of 11 March 2020 entitled ‘A new Circular Economy Action Plan For a cleaner and more competitive Europe’ (COM(2020)0098),*

Or. en

**Amendment 14**

**Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Citation 10 e (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

- *having regard to its resolution of 15 May 2020 on the new multiannual financial framework, own resources and*

**Amendment 15**

**Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**

**Citation 10 f (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

- *having regard to its resolution of 15 January 2020 on the European Green Deal (2019/2956(RSP))*

**Amendment 16**

**Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**

**Citation 10 g (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

- *having regard to its resolution of 17 April 2020 on EU coordinated action to combat the COVID-19 pandemic and its consequences (2020/2616(RSP))*

**Amendment 17**

**Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**

**Citation 10 h (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*



- *having regard to its resolution of 23 July 2020 on the conclusions of the extraordinary European Council meeting of 17-21 July 2020 (2020/2732(RSP))*

Or. en

#### **Amendment 18**

**Josianne Cutajar, Łukasz Kohut, Carlos Zorrinho, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Adriana Maldonado López, Eva Kaili, Robert Hajšel, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Nicolás González Casares, Alicia Homs Ginel**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

**Citation 12 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

- *having regard to the Commission communication of 27 May 2020 entitled ‘Europe’s moment: Repair and Prepare for the Next Generation’ (COM(2020)456),*

Or. en

#### **Amendment 19**

**Josianne Cutajar, Łukasz Kohut, Carlos Zorrinho, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Adriana Maldonado López, Eva Kaili, Robert Hajšel, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Nicolás González Casares, Alicia Homs Ginel**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

**Citation 12 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

- *having regard to the Commission communication of 27 May 2020 entitled ‘Adjusted Commission Work Programme 2020’ (COM(2020)440),*

Or. en

#### **Amendment 20**

**Josianne Cutajar, Łukasz Kohut, Carlos Zorrinho, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques,**

**Adriana Maldonado López, Eva Kaili, Robert Hajšel, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Nicolás González Casares, Alicia Homs Ginel**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Citation 12 c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

- *having regard to the findings of the Digital Economy and Society Index 2020, published on the 11th of June 2020,*

Or. en

**Amendment 21**

**Josianne Cutajar, Łukasz Kohut, Carlos Zorrinho, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Adriana Maldonado López, Eva Kaili, Robert Hajšel, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Nicolás González Casares, Alicia Homs Ginel**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Citation 12 d (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

- *having regard to the Commission communication of 1 July 2020 entitled ‘European Skills Agenda for sustainable competitiveness, social fairness and resilience’ (COM(2020)0274),*

Or. en

**Amendment 22**

**Josianne Cutajar, Łukasz Kohut, Carlos Zorrinho, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Adriana Maldonado López, Eva Kaili, Robert Hajšel, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Nicolás González Casares, Alicia Homs Ginel**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Citation 12 e (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

- *having regard to the Annual Report on European SMEs 2018/2019 of November 2019,*

**Amendment 23**

**Josianne Cutajar, Łukasz Kohut, Carlos Zorrinho, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Adriana Maldonado López, Eva Kaili, Robert Hajšel, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Nicolás González Casares, Alicia Homs Ginel**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Citation 12 f (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

- *having regard to the OECD Report ‘The Missing Entrepreneurs 2019’ of December 2019,*

Or. en

**Amendment 24**

**Josianne Cutajar, Łukasz Kohut, Carlos Zorrinho, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Adriana Maldonado López, Eva Kaili, Robert Hajšel, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Nicolás González Casares, Alicia Homs Ginel**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Recital A**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

A. whereas the Commission’s communication ‘An SME strategy for a sustainable and digital Europe’ was published on 10 March 2020, while on 11 March the WHO issued the COVID-19 pandemic alert, ***rendering the economic, social and political environment referred to by the Commission out of date;***

A. whereas the Commission’s communication ‘An SME strategy for a sustainable and digital Europe’ was published on 10 March 2020, while on 11 March the WHO issued the COVID-19 pandemic alert, ***making a revision of the strategy necessary, due to the change in many economic, social and political conditions; whereas the Commission’s strategy presented in March still proposes valid solutions to address the structural challenges SMEs were facing prior to the COVID-19 crisis and the upcoming ones related to the environmental and the digital transitions;***

Or. en

## **Amendment 25**

**Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

### **Motion for a resolution**

#### **Recital A**

##### *Motion for a resolution*

A. whereas the Commission's communication 'An SME strategy for a sustainable and digital Europe' was published on 10 March 2020, while on 11 March the WHO issued the COVID-19 pandemic alert, ***rendering*** the economic, social and political environment ***referred to by the Commission out of date***;

##### *Amendment*

A. whereas the Commission's communication 'An SME strategy for a sustainable and digital Europe' was published on 10 March 2020, while on 11 March the WHO issued the COVID-19 pandemic alert, ***impacting significantly*** the economic, social and political environment ***in which SMEs operate***;

Or. en

## **Amendment 26**

**Tomas Tobé**

### **Motion for a resolution**

#### **Recital A a (new)**

##### *Motion for a resolution*

***A a. whereas European competitiveness is lagging behind other developed economies, threatening Europe's potential to generate wealth and prosperity,***

##### *Amendment*

Or. en

## **Amendment 27**

**Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

### **Motion for a resolution**

#### **Recital B**

##### *Motion for a resolution*

##### *Amendment*

B. whereas 25 million SMEs **generate** more than half of the EU's GDP, **and employ** about 100 million workers; **whereas 98.9 %** of enterprises in the EU's non-financial business economy **are small enterprises with fewer than 49 workers**;

B. whereas **the** 25 million SMEs **in the EU-28 are the backbone of the economy, generating** more than half of the EU's GDP, **employing** about 100 million workers, **and constituting 98.9 %** of enterprises in the EU's non-financial business economy; **whereas SMEs are therefore at the centre of the European Green Deal and Digital Strategy, and play a key role in achieving of the EU's 2030 and 2050 GHG emissions reduction targets enshrined in the Climate Law [COM(2020) 80]**;

Or. en

**Amendment 28**  
**Margarita de la Pisa Carrión**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital B**

*Motion for a resolution*

B. whereas 25 million SMEs **generate** more than half of the EU's GDP, and **employ** about 100 million workers; whereas 98.9 % of enterprises in the EU's non-financial business economy are small enterprises with fewer than 49 workers;

*Amendment*

B. whereas **that before the COVID19** 25 million SMEs **generated** more than half of the EU's GDP, and **employed** about 100 million workers; whereas 98.9 % of enterprises in the EU's non-financial business economy are small enterprises with fewer than 49 workers;

Or. en

**Amendment 29**  
**Sandra Pereira, Sira Rego, Giorgos Georgiou, Cornelia Ernst, Marisa Matias, Manuel Bompard, Marc Botenga**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital B a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

**Ba. whereas micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs), both at national and EU level, are**

*Amendment*

*simultaneously very complex and heterogeneous given their size and the very diverse sectors of activity they cover, each with their own - and at times very different - dynamics, particularly the economic, financial, social or even political dynamics that characterise them;*

Or. pt

### **Amendment 30**

**Martina Dlabajová, Christophe Grudler, Iskra Mihaylova, Ivars Ijabs, Claudia Gamon, Bart Groothuis, Nicola Danti, Mauri Pekkarinen, Susana Solís Pérez, Dragoş Pîslaru, Klemen Grošelj, Fredrick Federley, Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, Martin Hojsík, Valérie Hayer, Nicola Beer**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Recital B a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***B a. whereas SMEs are vital for the development and resilience of European industrial value chains and contribute significantly to local, regional and national economies;***

Or. en

### **Amendment 31**

**Josianne Cutajar, Łukasz Kohut, Carlos Zorrinho, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Adriana Maldonado López, Eva Kaili, Robert Hajšel, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Nicolás González Casares, Alicia Homs Ginel**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Recital C**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

C. whereas the economic crisis triggered by the pandemic has brought a considerable number of SMEs to the verge of insolvency;

C. whereas the economic crisis ***and the consequent grim economic outlook*** triggered by the pandemic has brought a considerable number of SMEs to the verge of insolvency; ***whereas the liquidity crunch many SMEs are suffering from will not only have negative repercussions***

*on their day-to-day operations, but also on their future growth perspectives, preventing them from properly planning long-term investments;*

Or. en

### **Amendment 32**

**Robert Roos, Jessica Stegrud, Izabela-Helena Kloc**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Recital C**

###### *Motion for a resolution*

C. whereas the economic crisis triggered by the pandemic has brought a considerable number of SMEs to the verge of insolvency;

###### *Amendment*

C. whereas the economic crisis triggered by the pandemic has brought a considerable number of SMEs to the verge of insolvency; *whereas the non-standard monetary measures from the European Central Bank (ECB) in response to the economic crisis help larger companies, as they rely more on the commercial debt market, but don't improve financial conditions for SME's;*

Or. en

### **Amendment 33**

**Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Recital C**

###### *Motion for a resolution*

C. whereas the economic crisis triggered by the pandemic has brought a considerable number of SMEs to the verge of insolvency;

###### *Amendment*

C. whereas the economic crisis triggered by the pandemic has brought a considerable number of SMEs *and start-ups* to the verge of insolvency; *whereas to minimise the economic, social and strategic risks associated with the disappearance of these companies, the EU and the Member States should act boldly and swiftly;*

**Amendment 34**  
**Ignazio Corrao, Eleonora Evi**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital C**

*Motion for a resolution*

C. whereas the economic crisis triggered by the pandemic has brought a considerable number of SMEs to the verge of insolvency;

*Amendment*

C. whereas the economic crisis triggered by the pandemic has brought a considerable number of SMEs to the verge of insolvency; ***whereas domestic safety measures against the pandemic, while necessary, are hindering the recovery as SMEs do not have the tools to face a protracted crisis;***

Or. en

**Amendment 35**  
**Margarita de la Pisa Carrión**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital C**

*Motion for a resolution*

C. whereas the economic crisis triggered by the pandemic has brought a considerable number of SMEs to the verge of insolvency;

*Amendment*

C. whereas the economic crisis triggered by the pandemic has brought a considerable ***and indeterminate*** number of SMEs to the verge of insolvency;

Or. en

**Amendment 36**  
**Henrike Hahn**  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital C a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*



*C a. Whereas the impact of the capital shortfall as a consequence of the COVID-19 crisis will be uneven across sectors, company types and Member States, hence leading to divergences in the single market; whereas the latter is aggravated by different abilities of Member States to provide for state aid; whereas SMEs have been particularly affected by the COVID-19 crisis*

Or. en

**Amendment 37**

**Sandra Pereira, Sira Rego, Giorgos Georgiou, Cornelia Ernst, Marisa Matias, Manuel Bompard, Marc Botenga**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Recital C a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*Ca. whereas the concentration of wealth by a small number of large firms, the abuse of market dominance, the overwhelming bargaining, financial and even political power wielded by these large corporations and the economic groups to which they belong, place strong constraints on SMEs;*

Or. pt

**Amendment 38**

**Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**

**Recital C b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*C b. whereas female business owners have been particularly hard hit by the COVID-19 crisis; whereas women constitute 52% of the total European*

*population, but constitute only 34.4% of the EU self-employed and 30% of start-up entrepreneurs<sup>1a</sup>; whereas female creativity and entrepreneurial potential remain untapped and should be further developed; whereas SME policies should proactively address gender disparities;*

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*1a*

*[https://ec.europa.eu/growth/smes/promoting-entrepreneurship/we-work-for/women\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/growth/smes/promoting-entrepreneurship/we-work-for/women_en)*

Or. en

**Amendment 39**

**Sandra Pereira, Sira Rego, Giorgos Georgiou, Cornelia Ernst, Marisa Matias, Manuel Bompard, Marc Botenga**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Recital C b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*Cb. whereas the vast majority of SMEs depend on the banking sector for funding;*

Or. pt

**Amendment 40**

**Sandra Pereira, Sira Rego, Giorgos Georgiou, Cornelia Ernst, Marisa Matias, Manuel Bompard**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Recital C c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*Cc. whereas the majority of SMEs live off and for national markets;*

Or. pt

**Amendment 41**  
**Henrike Hahn**  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital D a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***D a. Whereas in its resolution “EU coordinated action to combat the COVID-19 pandemic and its consequences” the Parliament stressed that the European Green Deal and digital transformation should be at the core of the post-COVID recovery and reconstruction strategies; whereas in this recovery and reconstruction phase EU and national policy makers have the unique opportunity to simultaneously strengthen and transform the way our economy and its actors are working, accelerating the transition to an economically, socially and environmentally sustainable society;***

Or. en

**Amendment 42**  
**Josianne Cutajar, Łukasz Kohut, Carlos Zorrinho, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Adriana Maldonado López, Eva Kaili, Robert Hajšel, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Nicolás González Casares, Alicia Homs Ginel**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital D a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***D a. whereas, despite the COVID-19 emergency, the environmental and digital transitions are still a priority since the pandemic has not stopped the climate emergency and the European Union is still facing competition from other global players in the digital and technological sphere; whereas innovation represents an effective way for SMEs to build long-term and sustainable growth;***

**Amendment 43**

**Sandra Pereira, Sira Rego, Giorgos Georgiou, Cornelia Ernst, Marisa Matias, Manuel Bompard, Marc Botenga**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Recital D a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***Da. whereas, following the COVID-19 outbreak, inequality between Member States in terms of the support they are able to give their SMEs is likely to exacerbate distortions of competition on the single market between SMEs from different countries;***

Or. pt

**Amendment 44**

**Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**

**Recital D b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***D b. Whereas the adoption of environmentally sustainable practices, innovations and technologies creates new jobs and business opportunities for SMEs whilst improving their competitiveness and reducing their costs, provided the right administrative, regulatory and technical conditions are in place;***

Or. en

**Amendment 45**

**Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital D c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***D c. Whereas the adoption of circular economy principles across the EU has the potential to increase EU GDP by an additional 0.5% by 2030 creating around 700 000 new jobs<sup>1a</sup>; whereas benefits associated with the circular economy - such as increased efficiency, reduced material costs, increased profitability through closed loop models, and increased resilience to resource scarcity and price fluctuations can significantly enhance SMEs competitiveness;***

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***<sup>1a</sup> Circular Economy Action plan COM (2020) 98 final***

Or. en

**Amendment 46**  
**Henrike Hahn**  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital D d (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***D d. Whereas the energy efficiency and renewable energy sectors provide great employment and business opportunities for SMEs; whereas resource and energy efficiency and renewable energy use can substantially reduce SMEs' costs and enhance their competitiveness, but remain largely untapped, in particular for non-energy intensive SME;***

Or. en

**Amendment 47**  
**Henrike Hahn**  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital D e (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***D e. Whereas SMEs make a crucial contribution to achieving a net zero GHG emission economy by developing eco-friendly innovations, products, processes and services, often at a faster pace than bigger companies thanks to their greater adaptability and flexibility; whereas only around a quarter of European SMEs offer green products and services<sup>1a</sup>, whereas SMEs hold further unlocked potential to tackle pressing environmental and societal concerns; whereas SMEs should receive support not only in relation to eco-innovation, but also to elevate climate-oriented, ecological standards in their sector;***

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<sup>1a</sup> *Eurobarometer (2018). Flash Eurobarometer 456 - SMEs, resource efficiency and green markets. (pp. 75-78) <https://ec.europa.eu/commfrontoffice/publicopinion/index.cfm/survey/getsurveydetail/instruments/flash/surveyky/2151>*

Or. en

**Amendment 48**  
**Henrike Hahn**  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital D f (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***D f. Whereas besides a minority of high-tech SMEs directly delivering eco-innovations, there are many other SMEs,***

*which wish to improve their environmental performance and resource efficiency and deserve access to funding and technical support; whereas eco-innovation is a very effective measure to improve existing businesses within the framework of the green economy;*

Or. en

**Amendment 49**

**Josianne Cutajar, Łukasz Kohut, Carlos Zorrinho, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Adriana Maldonado López, Eva Kaili, Robert Hajšel**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Recital E**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**E.** *whereas, according to the 2019 report ‘Mind the Bridge: Tech Scale-up Europe’<sup>8</sup>, the number of thriving enterprises in the United States is three times the number in the EU;*

*deleted*

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<sup>8</sup> <https://mindthebridge.com/tech-scaleup-europe-2019-report/>

Or. en

**Amendment 50**

**Ignazio Corrao, Eleonora Evi**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Recital E a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**E a.** *Whereas some SMEs are innovative agents and better equipped to face and drive changes, others are more vulnerable to disruption; it is thus crucial that EU policies and legislations offer the right framework to enable a swift transition to a circular, green and more*

*sustainable business operations and practices for all type of SMEs;*

Or. en

**Amendment 51**

**Ignazio Corrao, Eleonora Evi**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Recital E b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***E b. Whereas resource scarcity, accelerated consumption, ecological decline and EU's dependency on imported raw materials and resources pose significant risks for the prosperity of the European industrial sector; whereas, considering that SMEs represents the 99% of all businesses in the EU, it is of utmost importance they engage and drive the change towards a highly energy and resource efficient, fully renewable-based, net-zero GHG and toxic-free industrial base; whereas the adoption of circular economy principles can benefit SMEs in several ways such as reducing exposure to resource prices volatility and consumption, stimulating innovation, increasing efficiency and environmental sustainability thus overall enhancing SMEs competitiveness;***

Or. en

**Amendment 52**

**Josianne Cutajar, Łukasz Kohut, Carlos Zorrinho, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Adriana Maldonado López, Eva Kaili, Robert Hajšel, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Nicolás González Casares, Alicia Homs Ginel**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Recital F**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*



F. whereas many SMEs still lack full access to digitalisation; whereas focus on **R&I and** skills should **accompany** the enhancement of **access to** digital infrastructure;

F. whereas, **according to the Digital Economy and Society Index 2020**, many SMEs still lack full access to digitalisation **and are lagging behind large firms both in terms of digital skills and digitalisation of their operations**; whereas **the use of data represents a competitive advantage in order to reap the benefits of the digital transition, and the** focus on skills should **go hand in hand with** the enhancement of **the** digital infrastructure **as well as with the improvement of data access for SMEs**;

Or. en

**Amendment 53**  
**Ignazio Corrao, Eleonora Evi**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital F**

*Motion for a resolution*

F. whereas many SMEs still lack full access to digitalisation; whereas focus on R&I and skills should accompany the enhancement of access to digital infrastructure;

*Amendment*

F. whereas **digital technologies offer new opportunities for SMEs to innovate, grow and participate in the global economy but** many SMEs still lack full access to digitalisation; **whereas one of the main challenges to unlock the potential of digitalisation is to find skilled employees**; whereas focus on R&I and skills should accompany the enhancement of access to **more accessible, reliable and affordable** digital infrastructure;

Or. en

**Amendment 54**  
**Martina Dlabajová, Christophe Grudler, Iskra Mihaylova, Ivars Ijabs, Claudia Gamon, Bart Groothuis, Nicola Danti, Mauri Pekkarinen, Susana Solís Pérez, Dragoş Pîslaru, Klemen Grošelj, Fredrick Federley, Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, Martin Hojsík, Valérie Hayer, Nicola Beer**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital F**

*Motion for a resolution*

F. whereas many SMEs still lack full access to digitalisation; whereas focus on R&I **and** skills should accompany the enhancement of access to digital infrastructure;

*Amendment*

F. whereas many SMEs still lack full access to digitalisation; whereas focus on R&I, **entrepreneurial skills, digital literacy and advanced digital** skills should accompany the enhancement of access to digital infrastructure **and data**;

Or. en

**Amendment 55**

**Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**

**Recital F**

*Motion for a resolution*

F. whereas many SMEs still lack full access to digitalisation; whereas focus on R&I **and** skills should accompany the **enhancement of access to** digital infrastructure;

*Amendment*

F. whereas many SMEs still lack full access to digitalisation; whereas focus on R&I, skills **as well as fair commercial and regulatory frameworks** should accompany the **roll-out of** digital infrastructure

Or. en

**Amendment 56**

**Josianne Cutajar, Łukasz Kohut, Carlos Zorrinho, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Adriana Maldonado López, Eva Kaili, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Nicolás González Casares, Alicia Homs Ginell**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Recital F a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**F a. whereas in the European Union there are still “missing entrepreneurs”, such as youth, women, migrants, seniors, whose entrepreneurial potential still needs to be fully developed; whereas the enhancement of the entrepreneurial culture of under-represented or disadvantaged categories can represent an**

*instrument to enable them to fully contribute to the digital and environmental transitions and to increase their participation in the labour market;*

Or. en

**Amendment 57**  
**Ignazio Corrao, Eleonora Evi**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital F a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*F a. Whereas innovation is vital to SMEs and crucial for competing in the global market; whereas there is large potential for SMEs participation in the innovative green technologies value chain and hence playing a role in ensuring the attainment of the EU's climate and energy goals; whereas green jobs compare favourably to ones in other sectors as they tend to be safer, better paid and more skilled.*

Or. en

**Amendment 58**  
**Sandra Pereira, Sira Rego, Giorgos Georgiou, Cornelia Ernst, Marisa Matias, Manuel Bompard, Marc Botenga**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital F a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*Fa. whereas many SMEs have been seriously affected by unfair competition from multinational companies, so-called digital platforms that have managed to circumvent certain legal obligations imposed on other companies, thereby contributing to social dumping, workplace deregulation and the insolvency of many*

*companies;*

Or. pt

**Amendment 59**  
**Paolo Borchia**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital F a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***F a. Whereas, according to Eurobarometer, almost a quarter of SMEs in Europe have already started the transition to sustainability but, at the same time, a third of SMEs report that they face complex administrative procedures while attempting to make their activities more resource-efficient;***

Or. en

**Amendment 60**  
**Patrizia Toia**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital F a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***F a. whereas almost a quarter of SMEs in Europe have already enabled the transition towards more sustainable business models, and this is a positive signal of SMEs readiness to embrace the necessary change;***

Or. en

**Amendment 61**  
**Eleonora Evi, Ignazio Corrao**

**Motion for a resolution**

## Recital F b (new)

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***F b. Whereas there are great potential and relative economic and environmental benefits for SMEs to improve their energy and resource efficiency while also employing renewable energy for the outstanding energy demand, but such potential remains largely unexploited; whereas SMEs could contribute, through their energy and resource consumption behaviours, to a quick shift towards acircular and net-zero GHG economy;***

Or. en

## Amendment 62

**Robert Roos**

on behalf of the ECR Group

**Elżbieta Kruk, Jessica Stegrud, Evžen Tošenovský, Izabela-Helena Kloc**

### Motion for a resolution

#### Recital G

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

G. whereas the costs and complexities of administrative procedures still represent a major obstacle for SMEs' access to intellectual property ***protection in several Member States;***

G. whereas the ***financial and 'irritation' costs of compliance with overregulation is a drag on businesses;*** whereas costs and complexities of administrative procedures still represent a major obstacle for SMEs, ***for instance in the field of*** access to intellectual property; ***whereas smart deregulation can increase creativity and innovation;***

Or. en

## Amendment 63

**Josianne Cutajar, Łukasz Kohut, Carlos Zorrinho, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Adriana Maldonado López, Eva Kaili, Robert Hajšel, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Nicolás González Casares, Alicia Homs Ginel**

### Motion for a resolution

## Recital G

### *Motion for a resolution*

G. whereas the costs and complexities of administrative procedures still represent a major obstacle for SMEs' access to intellectual property protection in several Member States;

### *Amendment*

G. whereas the costs and complexities of administrative procedures still represent a major obstacle for SMEs' access ***not only*** to intellectual property protection in several Member States, ***but also to funding opportunities, including those under the scope of the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF)***;

Or. en

## Amendment 64

**Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

### Motion for a resolution

#### Recital G

### *Motion for a resolution*

G. whereas the costs and complexities of administrative procedures still represent a major obstacle for SMEs' ***access to intellectual property protection*** in several Member States;

### *Amendment*

G. whereas the costs and complexities of administrative procedures, ***the threat of aggressive patent litigation, access to finance, skills and information*** still represent a major obstacle for SMEs' in several Member States ***while open source and open data models provide good practice for future developments***;

Or. en

## Amendment 65

**Robert Roos**

on behalf of the ECR Group

**Elżbieta Kruk, Izabela-Helena Kloc**

### Motion for a resolution

#### Recital G a (new)

### *Motion for a resolution*

### *Amendment*

***G a. whereas innovation does not start***

*with regulation, it starts with entrepreneurs combining ideas and financing; whereas regulation should tackle specific issues like safety and pollution;*

Or. en

**Amendment 66**

**Martina Dlabajová, Christophe Grudler, Iskra Mihaylova, Ivars Ijabs, Claudia Gamon, Bart Groothuis, Nicola Danti, Mauri Pekkarinen, Susana Solís Pérez, Dragoş Pîslaru, Klemen Grošelj, Fredrick Federley, Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, Martin Hojsík, Valérie Hayer, Nicola Beer**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Recital G a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*G a. whereas digitalisation and deployment of innovative solutions will be crucial for SMEs contribution to the success of the European Green Deal;*

Or. en

**Amendment 67**

**Martina Dlabajová, Christophe Grudler, Iskra Mihaylova, Ivars Ijabs, Claudia Gamon, Bart Groothuis, Nicola Danti, Mauri Pekkarinen, Susana Solís Pérez, Dragoş Pîslaru, Klemen Grošelj, Fredrick Federley, Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, Martin Hojsík, Valérie Hayer, Nicola Beer**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Recital G b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*G b. whereas innovation in SMEs is often the outcome of collaborative efforts in which businesses interact and exchange knowledge and information with partners as part of broader innovation systems;*

Or. en

**Amendment 68**

**Martina Dlabajová, Christophe Grudler, Iskra Mihaylova, Claudia Gamon, Bart Groothuis, Nicola Danti, Mauri Pekkarinen, Susana Solís Pérez, Dragoş Pîslaru, Klemen Grošelj, Fredrick Federley, Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, Valérie Hayer, Martin Hojsík**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Recital G c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*G c. whereas grants are typically more likely than tax credits to reach SMEs or activities in which SMEs are more likely to be involved;*

Or. en

**Amendment 69**

**Patrizia Toia**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Recital H**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*H. whereas mid-caps that do not meet the criteria to be classified as SMEs contribute significantly to employment and growth, especially in some Member States, and therefore require an additional and separate mid-cap definition, without prejudice to the definition of SME, in order to ensure that mid-caps with 250 to 499 employees can receive more assistance and be better promoted;* *deleted*

Or. en

**Amendment 70**

**Josianne Cutajar, Łukasz Kohut, Carlos Zorrinho, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Adriana Maldonado López, Robert Hajšel**

**Motion for a resolution**



## Recital H

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**H.** *whereas mid-caps that do not meet the criteria to be classified as SMEs contribute significantly to employment and growth, especially in some Member States, and therefore require an additional and separate mid-cap definition, without prejudice to the definition of SME, in order to ensure that mid-caps with 250 to 499 employees can receive more assistance and be better promoted;* **deleted**

Or. en

## Amendment 71

**Pietro Fiocchi**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Recital H**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**H.** *whereas mid-caps that do not meet the criteria to be classified as SMEs contribute significantly to employment and growth, especially in some Member States, and therefore require an additional and separate mid-cap definition, without prejudice to the definition of SME, in order to ensure that mid-caps with 250 to 499 employees can receive more assistance and be better promoted;* **deleted**

Or. en

## Amendment 72

**Martina Dlabajová, Christophe Grudler, Iskra Mihaylova, Ivars Ijabs, Claudia Gamon, Bart Groothuis, Nicola Danti, Mauri Pekkarinen, Susana Solís Pérez, Dragoş Pîslaru, Klemen Grošelj, Fredrick Federley, Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, Martin Hojsík, Valérie Hayer**

## Motion for a resolution

### Recital H

#### *Motion for a resolution*

H. whereas *mid-caps that do not meet the criteria to be classified as SMEs contribute significantly to employment and growth, especially in some Member States, and therefore require an additional and separate mid-cap definition, without prejudice to the definition of SME, in order to ensure that mid-caps with 250 to 499 employees can receive more assistance and be better promoted;*

#### *Amendment*

H. whereas *an EU SME definition is referred to in over 100 EU legal acts covering a wide range of EU policies;*

Or. en

## Amendment 73

Ignazio Corrao, Eleonora Evi

## Motion for a resolution

### Recital H

#### *Motion for a resolution*

H. whereas mid-caps that do not meet the criteria to be classified as SMEs contribute significantly to employment and growth, especially in some Member States, and therefore require an additional and separate mid-cap definition, without prejudice to the definition of SME, in order to ensure that mid-caps with 250 to 499 employees can receive more assistance and be better promoted;

#### *Amendment*

H. whereas mid-caps that do not meet the criteria to be classified as SMEs contribute significantly to employment and growth, especially in some Member States, and therefore require an additional and separate mid-cap definition, without prejudice to the definition of SME, in order to ensure that mid-caps with 250 to 499 employees can receive more assistance and be better promoted; *insists that EU SME definition should not be modified and resources earmarked for SMEs should not be diluted;*

Or. en

## Amendment 74

Henrike Hahn

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital H**

*Motion for a resolution*

H. whereas mid-caps that do not meet the criteria to be classified as SMEs contribute significantly to employment and growth, especially in some Member States, ***and therefore require an additional and separate mid-cap definition, without prejudice to the definition of SME, in order to ensure that mid-caps with 250 to 499 employees can receive more assistance and be better promoted;***

*Amendment*

H. whereas mid-caps that do not meet the criteria to be classified as SMEs contribute significantly to employment and growth, especially in some Member States, ***acknowledges plans to establish a separate intermediate category for companies with 250 to 499 employees; insists that any such new category must not be part of and dilute the effectiveness of the SME definition;***

Or. en

**Amendment 75**  
**Henrike Hahn**  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital H a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

***H a. Whereas in its SME Strategy the Commission confirmed the validity of the current SME definition; whereas it will further examine and report on specific issues raised in the most recent public consultation, such as complex ownership structures or possible “lock-in effects”; whereas the Commission still needs to comply with the judgment of the European Court of Justice of 15th September 2016 requiring the clarification on the criteria of ‘independence/ autonomy’;***

*Amendment*

Or. en

**Amendment 76**  
**Josianne Cutajar, Łukasz Kohut, Carlos Zorrinho, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques,**

**Adriana Maldonado López, Eva Kaili, Robert Hajšel, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Nicolás González Casares, Alicia Homs Ginel**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital H a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***H a. whereas micro-enterprises represent a relevant share of European SMEs and have very often difficulties in accessing finance as well as in gaining a complete knowledge of the opportunities at the European and at the national level, whereas this category of enterprises has also been hit very hard by the COVID-19 crisis and, without prejudice to the current definition of SME, it deserves to receive more assistance and be better promoted;***

Or. en

**Amendment 77**

**Josianne Cutajar, Łukasz Kohut, Carlos Zorrinho, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Adriana Maldonado López, Eva Kaili, Robert Hajšel, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Nicolás González Casares, Alicia Homs Ginel**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital H b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***H b. whereas the public administration, both at the European and at the national level, has a key role in ensuring the ease of doing business and in promoting investments aiming to boost economic competitiveness, while safeguarding the highest standards of transparency and workers' health and safety;***

Or. en

**Amendment 78**

**Josianne Cutajar, Łukasz Kohut, Carlos Zorrinho, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques,**

**Adriana Maldonado López, Eva Kaili, Robert Hajšel, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Nicolás González Casares, Alicia Homs Ginel**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Recital H c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***H c. whereas the single currency has contributed to enhancing the Single Market and has thus been beneficial to many European SMEs;***

Or. en

**Amendment 79**  
**Henrike Hahn**  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph -1 (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***-1. Welcomes the SME Strategy and shares the Commission's view that SMEs are essential to the European economy and central to achieving the EU's green and digital transition in line with the Paris Agreement and objectives of the European Green Deal and the European Digital Strategy; calls for the adoption of an action plan with clear objectives, milestones and timeline, accompanied by regular monitoring, reporting and evaluations;***

Or. en

**Amendment 80**  
**Ignazio Corrao, Eleonora Evi**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph -1 (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**-1. Welcomes the new EU SMEs strategy; reiterates the importance of SMEs and start-ups for the competitiveness, prosperity and technological sovereignty of Europe, while also their key role for ensuring successful ecological and sustainably digital transitions;**

Or. en

**Amendment 81**

**Robert Roos**

on behalf of the ECR Group

**Elżbieta Kruk, Evžen Tošenovský, Izabela-Helena Kloc**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph -1 (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**-1. Asks the Commission to present an updated version of its Communication on 'a new strategy for SMEs', reflecting the points raised in this resolution;**

Or. en

**Amendment 82**

**Josianne Cutajar, Łukasz Kohut, Carlos Zorrinho, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Adriana Maldonado López, Eva Kaili, Robert Hajšel**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 1**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**1. Calls on Member States to adopt a roadmap with targets, aiming to achieve a swift reduction in the number of rules by at least 30 %;**

**deleted**

Or. en

## Amendment 83

Jens Gieseke

on behalf of the PPE Group

Ivan Štefanec, Sven Schulze, Pilar del Castillo Vera, Eva Maydell, Pernille Weiss, Hildegard Bentele, Angelika Winzig, Henna Virkkunen, Maria da Graça Carvalho, Angelika Niebler, Tom Berendsen, Ioan-Rareş Bogdan, Vasile Blaga, Markus Pieper, Roberta Metsola

### Motion for a resolution

#### Paragraph 1

##### *Motion for a resolution*

1. Calls on Member States to adopt a roadmap with targets, aiming to achieve a swift reduction in the number of rules by at least 30 %;

##### *Amendment*

1. ***Welcomes the Commission's commitment to introduce a "one in - one out" principle as a first step to stem the tide of new regulation, but reminds that it merely maintains status quo, which is not a sufficient ambition; urges the Commission to apply the principle of proportionality at any time; calls on Member States to adopt a roadmap with targets, aiming to achieve a swift reduction in the number of rules by at least 30 % in order to reduce compliance costs including red tape for SMEs at European and national level as an important prerequisite for the economy's ability to recover, innovate and for EU companies' competitiveness.***

Or. en

## Amendment 84

Ignazio Corrao, Eleonora Evi

### Motion for a resolution

#### Paragraph 1

##### *Motion for a resolution*

1. Calls on Member States to adopt a roadmap with targets, ***aiming to achieve a swift reduction in the number of rules by at least 30 %;***

##### *Amendment*

1. ***Acknowledges that an excess of norms and regulations may hinder the ability of SMEs to strive as they miss the necessary resources to face complex bureaucratic requirements; believes that a***

*strategy for simplification must have clear and effective governance and actively involve the productive categories to identify problems, priorities and solutions; calls on Member States to adopt a roadmap with targets, objectives and strategies to reduce unnecessary burdens on SMEs while also ensuring effective legislative transposition;*

Or. en

#### **Amendment 85**

**Martina Dlabajová, Christophe Grudler, Iskra Mihaylova, Ivars Ijabs, Claudia Gamon, Bart Groothuis, Nicola Danti, Mauri Pekkarinen, Susana Solís Pérez, Dragoş Pîslaru, Klemen Grošelj, Fredrick Federley, Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, Valérie Hayer, Nicola Beer**

#### **Motion for a resolution Paragraph 1**

*Motion for a resolution*

1. Calls *on* Member States *to* adopt a roadmap with targets, aiming to achieve *a swift reduction in the number of rules by at least 30 %*;

*Amendment*

1. Calls *for a revived implementation of the Small Business Act (SBA), under which the Commission together with the Member States should adopt a concrete roadmap with clear timeline and targets, aiming to achieve consistent improvements around the 10 principles recognised under the SBA; underlines the need for a consistent application of the ‘Think Small First’ principle and calls the Commission to reflect the outcome of the SME Test in each impact assessment supporting its proposals;*

Or. en

#### **Amendment 86**

**Robert Roos**

on behalf of the ECR Group

**Elżbieta Kruk, Jessica Stegrud, Evžen Tošenovský, Izabela-Helena Kloc**

#### **Motion for a resolution Paragraph 1**



*Motion for a resolution*

1. Calls on Member States to adopt a roadmap with targets, aiming to achieve a swift reduction in the number of rules by at least 30 %;

*Amendment*

1. ***Emphasises the importance of reducing the legislative burden on SMEs; asks the Commission to come up with a Smart Deregulation Agenda, led by the Commissioner for Internal Market, in order to reduce the existing regulatory burden and create a cultural change in the different DG's; calls on the Member States and the European Commission to adopt a joint roadmap with clear targets and specific mandates, aiming to achieve a swift reduction in the number of rules by at least 30 %;***

Or. en

**Amendment 87**

**Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 1**

*Motion for a resolution*

1. Calls on Member States to ***adopt a roadmap with targets, aiming to achieve a swift reduction in the number of rules by at least 30 %;***

*Amendment*

1. Calls on ***the Commission and Member States to systematically, comprehensively and consistently apply the 'think small first' principle at all levels when developing their policies and legislation; highlights that it is more efficient and effective to factor in SMEs' needs and concerns early on in the process, rather than granting ex-post exemptions or exclusions;***

Or. en

**Amendment 88**

**Sara Skyttedal**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 1**

*Motion for a resolution*

1. Calls on Member States to adopt a roadmap with targets, aiming to achieve a swift reduction in the number of rules by at least 30 %;

*Amendment*

1. Calls on Member States to adopt a roadmap with targets, aiming to achieve a swift reduction in the number of rules by at least 30 %; ***considers that an important part of an improved business climate in the EU is the work of simplifying the regulations for companies.***

Or. en

**Amendment 89**

**Paolo Borchia**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 1**

*Motion for a resolution*

1. Calls on Member States to adopt a roadmap with targets, aiming to achieve a swift reduction in the number of rules by at least 30 %;

*Amendment*

1. Calls on Member States to adopt a roadmap with targets, aiming to achieve a swift reduction in the number of rules by at least 30 %; ***calls on Member states to ensure application of the "one in one out" principle and prohibit gold-plating;***

Or. en

**Amendment 90**

**Margarita de la Pisa Carrión**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 1**

*Motion for a resolution*

1. Calls on Member States to adopt a roadmap with targets, aiming to achieve a swift reduction in the number of rules by at least 30 %;

*Amendment*

1. Calls on Member States ***and the European Commission*** to adopt a roadmap with targets, aiming to achieve a swift reduction in the number of rules by at least 30 %;

Or. en

**Amendment 91**

**Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 1 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**1 a. Calls on the Commission and Member States to adopt a roadmap with targets, aiming to reduce to a minimum administrative and regulatory burden for SMEs stemming from policies and regulation, while continuing to ensure high levels of environmental protection and social standards; to this end calls for improved regulatory alignment, smart digitalization, increased user-friendliness, more streamlined procedures, and more secure, privacy-proof data; further demands increased and more targeted public technical and administrative assistance and trainings for SMEs facilitating the full and correct application of EU and national regulation;**

Or. en

**Amendment 92**

**Josianne Cutajar, Łukasz Kohut, Carlos Zorrinho, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Adriana Maldonado López, Eva Kaili, Robert Hajšel, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Nicolás González Casares, Alicia Homs Ginel**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 1 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**1 a. Calls on the European Commission to adopt a roadmap identifying the areas for reducing the administrative burden which SMEs suffer from and the way forward, as well as sharing best practices in this domain with**

*the scope of helping Member States undertake concrete actions to make the regulatory framework on SMEs less cumbersome; underlines that, in order to monitor the effectiveness in the reduction of the red tape, it is also important to assess such measures ex-post, taking into account the SMEs perspective and not undermining workers' rights and environmental standards;*

Or. en

**Amendment 93**  
**Sara Skyttedal**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*1 a. Welcomes that the commissions SME strategy addresses the simplification work as one of three cornerstones for the EU's work with SMEs; considering the reduction of red tape an important prerequisite for the economy's ability to recover, innovate and to transition to, among other things, climate-smart production, as well as a prerequisite for EU companies' competitiveness.*

Or. en

**Amendment 94**  
**Jens Gieseke**

on behalf of the PPE Group

**Henna Virkkunen, Ivan Štefanec, Sven Schulze, Pilar del Castillo Vera, Eva Maydell, Pernille Weiss, Hildegard Bentele, Angelika Winzig, Maria da Graça Carvalho, Angelika Niebler, Tom Berendsen, Ioan-Rareş Bogdan, Vasile Blaga, Massimiliano Salini, Antonio Tajani, Roberta Metsola**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**1 a.** *Believes in the need to strengthen the principle of „big on big things, small on small things“ and calls for a new inter-institutional commitment to reduce administrative burden; asks the Commission to apply a “think small first” principle across all relevant policy areas, in order to create legislation that spurs growth and development of SMEs;*

Or. en

**Amendment 95**

**Martina Dlabajová, Christophe Grudler, Iskra Mihaylova, Ivars Ijabs, Claudia Gamon, Bart Groothuis, Nicola Danti, Mauri Pekkarinen, Susana Solís Pérez, Dragoş Pîslaru, Klemen Grošelj, Fredrick Federley, Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, Valérie Hayer, Nicola Beer**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 1 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**1 a.** *Welcomes the Commission plan to appoint a dedicated EU SME Envoy to bring more visibility to SMEs' concerns; Calls on the Commission to build on the existing “SME Performance Review” process and engage in an annual debate on the “State of the SMEs Union” to be held in the European Parliament plenary sitting;*

Or. en

**Amendment 96**

**Ignazio Corrao, Eleonora Evi**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 1 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**1 a.** *Reiterates that simplification of*

*procedures and digitalization also require a modern, responsive, digital and less bureaucratic public administration as well as the simplification and streamlining of norms by thoroughly and horizontally applying the "think small first" and "only once" principles;*

Or. en

**Amendment 97**  
**Tomas Tobé**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*1 a. Calls on the Commission, Member States and local governments to make business climate and competitiveness paramount priorities of their political agendas; encourages all these actors to undertake structural reforms in order to increase economic growth in Europe;*

Or. en

**Amendment 98**  
**Sandra Pereira, Sira Rego, Giorgos Georgiou, Cornelia Ernst, Marisa Matias, Manuel Bompard, Marc Botenga**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*1a. Stresses the importance of state intervention to support SMEs in difficulty and considers that such support should ensure job retention, the protection of earnings and respect for workers' rights;*

Or. pt

**Amendment 99**

**Paolo Borchia**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 1 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***1 a. Considers the productivity differential between Member States to be one of the major causes of competitiveness distortions within the internal market;***

Or. en

**Amendment 100**

**Ignazio Corrao, Eleonora Evi**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 1 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***1 b. Believes that the "green transformation" presents significant business opportunities for SMEs, but they face size and resources-related constraints that hinder them to fully seize these opportunities; calls on the Commission and the Member States to provide tailored support to SMEs and legislation reflecting their needs and challenges while also providing clear information and awareness on the advantages brought about green choices, practices and business models;***

Or. en

**Amendment 101**

**Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 1 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**1 b.** *Calls on the Commission to guarantee full balance between the representation of large and small companies in all relevant bodies and committees associated with EU policymaking, starting with the Regulatory Scrutiny Board (RSB); considers the presence of only one SME representative in the RSB for the entire SME sector as insufficient in view of the great variety of SMEs in Europe;*

Or. en

**Amendment 102**

**Tomas Tobé**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 1 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**1 b.** *Welcomes the Commission's commitment to introduce a "one in - one out" principle as a first step to stem the tide of new regulation, but reminds that it merely maintains status quo, which is not a sufficient ambition;*

Or. en

**Amendment 103**

**Sandra Pereira, Sira Rego, Giorgos Georgiou, Cornelia Ernst, Marisa Matias, Manuel Bompard, Marc Botenga**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 1 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**1b.** *underlines the need to step up support for SMEs at EU level by addressing the enormous inequalities*



*resulting from different levels of national support;*

Or. pt

**Amendment 104**

**Sandra Pereira, Sira Rego, Giorgos Georgiou, Cornelia Ernst, Marisa Matias, Manuel Bompard, Marc Botenga**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 1 c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*1c. Considers that the objectives of the EU in the area of sustainability and digitisation should be fully matched by financial and other resources to enable Member States to promote SME transition within this area, this being of particular importance for the least developed countries and regions in the context of cohesion policy; stresses that such objectives cannot be contradictory and must, on the contrary, accompany measures to safeguard employment with rights and improve working conditions in the various sectors of activity;*

Or. pt

**Amendment 105**

**Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 1 c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*1 c. Considers it highly important for the Commission to focus on strengthening the Single Market in view of facilitating SMEs' access to the market, operating across borders, diversifying and strengthening short and sustainable*

*supply chains; asks the Commission to use strong enforcement action to ensure that the Single Market benefits all businesses and consumers; calls in this regard for particular attention to be given by the Commission to fighting unfair market practices and better protection of SMEs;*

Or. en

**Amendment 106**  
**Ignazio Corrao, Eleonora Evi**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1 c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*1 c. acknowledges that while many SMEs are willing to invest in energy-efficient, circular and environmentally friendly processes there are significant barriers, in particular financial, preventing them to do so; calls on the Commission and the Member States to remove such barriers by providing the right regulatory framework, technical and financial support schemes for successfully and swiftly taking up green practices, processes and services;*

Or. en

**Amendment 107**  
**Henrike Hahn**  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 1 d (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*1 d. Encourages Member States to implement the single digital gateway in an SME-friendly way by cooperating closely*

*with regional and local authorities and by providing user-friendly digital access to information, procedures, assistance and services linked to doing business across borders, including advice on public procurement and funding sources;*

Or. en

**Amendment 108**

**Sandra Pereira, Sira Rego, Giorgos Georgiou, Cornelia Ernst, Marisa Matias, Manuel Bompard, Marc Botenga**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 1 d (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*1d. Expresses concern regarding the difficulties in accessing EIB funding lines faced by most SMEs, particularly those with limited capitalisation, and calls for conditions of access to be brought into line with the reality confronting SMEs in the Member States;*

Or. pt

**Amendment 109**

**Sandra Pereira, Sira Rego, Giorgos Georgiou, Cornelia Ernst, Marisa Matias, Manuel Bompard, Marc Botenga**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 1 e (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*1e. Considers that the EU's strategy for SMEs should not exhaust incentives for SME participation in 'important projects of common European interest' (IPCEI) and should also value and promote other ways for SMEs to become involved in relevant projects at local, regional and national levels, furthering economic, social and territorial cohesion*

*in the EU;*

Or. pt

**Amendment 110**

**Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 1 e (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***1 e. Insists that sustainability should remain at the core of EU policies and programmes and that measures should be put in place to allow all SMEs to take full advantage of the green transition***

Or. en

**Amendment 111**

**Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 1 f (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***1 f. Reiterates its call on the Commission to tackle the major barriers for SMEs to put sustainable circular products and services on the EU market; asks for the adoption of measures to increase consumer awareness and strengthen transparency throughout the supply chain about the environmental and social footprint of products and services, and to boost public and private demand for environmentally sustainable products and services; calls for improved access for SMEs to environmental sustainability related funding; calls for the promotion of open and collaborative networks, matching services and exchange of best***

*practice, price incentives and the development of green transition and circular metrics and indicators;*

Or. en

#### **Amendment 112**

**Martina Dlabajová, Christophe Grudler, Iskra Mihaylova, Ivars Ijabs, Claudia Gamon, Bart Groothuis, Nicola Danti, Mauri Pekkarinen, Susana Solís Pérez, Dragoș Pîslaru, Klemen Grošelj, Fredrick Federley, Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, Martin Hojsík, Valérie Hayer, Nicola Beer**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 2**

###### *Motion for a resolution*

2. Recalls that SMEs will improve their access to global markets only if ***supported by a structured and predictable ecosystem***; recalls in this regard the role of chambers of commerce ***abroad***; recalls that smaller and micro-enterprises risk exclusion from global markets in the absence of adequate support;

###### *Amendment*

2. Recalls that SMEs will improve their access to ***the Single Market and the global markets only if confronted with a predictable regulatory framework and if supported by structured networks, solid information resources and access to investment opportunities***; recalls in this regard the role of chambers of commerce ***in Member States and internationally***; ***Underlines the opportunity to strengthen the cooperation between the SME Envoy network and the national and local organisations representing SMEs***; recalls that smaller and micro-enterprises risk exclusion from global markets in the absence of adequate support ***and accompanying measures stemming from EU trade policy***;

Or. en

#### **Amendment 113**

**Robert Roos**

on behalf of the ECR Group

**Jessica Stegrud**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 2**

*Motion for a resolution*

2. Recalls that **SMEs will improve their access to global markets only if supported by a structured and predictable ecosystem**; recalls in this regard the role of chambers of commerce abroad; **recalls that smaller and micro-enterprises risk exclusion from global markets in the absence of adequate support**;

*Amendment*

2. Recalls that **certain SMEs are interested to** access global markets; recalls in this regard the role of chambers of commerce abroad;

Or. en

**Amendment 114**

**Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 2**

*Motion for a resolution*

2. Recalls that SMEs will improve their access to global markets only if supported by a structured and predictable **ecosystem**; recalls in this regard the role of chambers of commerce abroad; recalls that smaller and micro-enterprises risk exclusion from global markets in the absence of adequate support;

*Amendment*

2. Recalls that SMEs will improve their access to global markets only if supported by a structured and predictable **enabling framework**; recalls in this regard the role of **EU delegations and** chambers of commerce abroad, **the exchange of best practice with trade partners and the provision of adequate information**; recalls that smaller and micro-enterprises risk exclusion from global markets in the absence of adequate support;

Or. en

**Amendment 115**

**Josianne Cutajar, Łukasz Kohut, Carlos Zorrinho, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Adriana Maldonado López, Eva Kaili, Robert Hajšel, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Nicolás González Casares, Alicia Homs Ginel**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 2**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

2. Recalls that SMEs will improve their access to global markets only if supported by a structured and predictable ecosystem; recalls in this regard the role of chambers of commerce abroad; *recalls* that smaller and micro-enterprises risk exclusion from global markets in the absence of adequate support;

2. Recalls that SMEs will improve ***their competitiveness and*** their access to global markets only if supported by a structured and predictable ecosystem ***both at the local level and internationally***; recalls in this regard the role of chambers of commerce ***operating at the local level and*** abroad; ***warns*** that smaller and micro-enterprises risk exclusion from global markets in the absence of adequate support;

Or. en

**Amendment 116**  
**Clara Ponsatí Obiols**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 2**

*Motion for a resolution*

2. Recalls that SMEs will improve their access to global markets only if supported by a structured and predictable ecosystem; recalls in this regard the role of chambers of commerce abroad; recalls that smaller and micro-enterprises risk exclusion from global markets in the absence of adequate support;

*Amendment*

2. Recalls that SMEs will improve their access to global markets only if supported by a structured and predictable ecosystem ***that goes from local to global, taking into account the opinions of their regions***; recalls in this regard the role of chambers of commerce abroad; recalls that smaller and micro-enterprises risk exclusion from global markets in the absence of adequate support;

Or. en

**Amendment 117**  
**Patrizia Toia**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 2**

*Motion for a resolution*

2. Recalls that SMEs will improve their access to global markets only if supported by a structured and predictable

*Amendment*

2. Recalls that SMEs will improve their access to global markets only if supported by a structured and predictable

ecosystem; recalls *in this regard the role of chambers of commerce abroad*; recalls that smaller and micro-enterprises risk exclusion from global markets in the absence of adequate support;

ecosystem; recalls that smaller and micro-enterprises risk exclusion from global markets in the absence of adequate support;

Or. en

**Amendment 118**  
**Margarita de la Pisa Carrión**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 2**

*Motion for a resolution*

2. Recalls that SMEs will improve their access to global markets only if supported by a structured and predictable ecosystem; recalls in this regard the role of chambers of commerce abroad; recalls that smaller and micro-enterprises risk exclusion from global markets in the absence of adequate support;

*Amendment*

2. Recalls that SMEs will improve their access to global markets only if supported by a structured and predictable ecosystem; recalls in this regard the role of chambers of commerce *and similar institutions* abroad; recalls that smaller and micro-enterprises risk exclusion from global markets in the absence of adequate support;

Or. en

**Amendment 119**  
**Paolo Borchia**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 2**

*Motion for a resolution*

2. Recalls that SMEs will improve their access to global markets only if supported by a structured and predictable ecosystem; recalls in this regard the role of chambers of commerce abroad; recalls that smaller and micro-enterprises risk exclusion from global markets in the absence of adequate support;

*Amendment*

2. Recalls that SMEs will improve their access to global markets only if supported by a structured and predictable ecosystem; recalls in this regard the role of *SME organisations and* chambers of commerce abroad; recalls that smaller and micro-enterprises risk exclusion from global markets in the absence of adequate support;



**Amendment 120**

**Josianne Cutajar, Łukasz Kohut, Carlos Zorrinho, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Adriana Maldonado López, Eva Kaili, Robert Hajšel, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Nicolás González Casares, Alicia Homs Ginel**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 2 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**2 a. Points out that the strategy on SMEs should be based on an approach that puts knowledge first since a skilled workforce is essential to make SMEs thrive and enable them to successfully cope not only with the environmental and digital transitions, but also with the traditional challenges these enterprises have faced; is of the opinion that those capabilities many SMEs are still lacking, should be prioritised, such as digital literacy, public procurement literacy and financial education as well as credit and supply chain management skills; deems that the chambers of commerce can have a central role in identifying the skills shortage at local level; calls for the development of a specific approach on micro-enterprises skills;**

Or. en

**Amendment 121**

**Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 2 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**2 a. Regrets the persistent underrepresentation and underfunding of women in SMEs; calls for initiatives**

*targeting educational and upskilling activities for women to help them become founders and managers of SMEs; calls for scaling up the financial products offered to female entrepreneurs; welcomes the Commission “gender-smart financing initiative” and calls for its swift implementation and for the setting of a 50% gender balanced target for EIB investment decision-making bodies; asks Member States to fully exploit the funding possibilities provided by the various EU programmes to enhance representation of and funding for women in SMEs;*

Or. en

#### **Amendment 122**

**Martina Dlabajová, Christophe Grudler, Iskra Mihaylova, Ivars Ijabs, Claudia Gamon, Bart Groothuis, Nicola Danti, Mauri Pekkarinen, Susana Solís Pérez, Dragoş Pîslaru, Klemen Grošelj, Fredrick Federley, Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, Valérie Hayer, Nicola Beer**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 2 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**2 a. Welcomes the achievements of the application of the Better Regulation principles so far; notes that further progress needs to be fulfilled, in particular in the realm of simplification and standardisation of forms and procedures, with the consistent implementation of the “once only” and “digital by default” principles, both at EU and Member State levels; underlines that the results of the SME Test reported in the impact assessment of future proposals should clearly demonstrate how the simplification would be attained in line with the “one in, one out” principle or, where possible, simplify even further (one in, two out);**

Or. en

**Amendment 123**  
**Izaskun Bilbao Barandica**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 2 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**2 a. Stresses the need for all available knowledge to foster innovation, development and entrepreneurship. Encourages the incorporation of regional development agencies in the planning and execution of the new SME strategy to take advantage of their proximity, knowledge and experience in supporting this productive fabric. Considers intelligent specialisation as a key agent to promote cooperation between SMEs to create synergies in the innovation process. Highlights the importance of having efficient mechanisms for the exchange of good practices in this area.**

Or. en

**Amendment 124**  
**Sara Skyttedal**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 2 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**2 a. Emphasises that with global and even more concerning, European supply chains currently interrupted by restrictive measures on trade, it is increasingly important to ensure that European industry and SMEs can source inputs from a diverse range of third countries; by harmonising the technical content of European and international standards, regrets that this is currently being hamstrung by a bureaucratic approach by the Commission;**

**Amendment 125**

**Robert Roos**

on behalf of the ECR Group

**Elżbieta Kruk, Evžen Tošenovský**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 2 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**2 a. Regrets that because of central bank monetary measures and the regulatory framework, the size of companies, far more than creditworthiness, now dictates access to credit; suggests action is warranted to stop this diverging access to credit; stresses that regarding the banking sector, there is a need for streamlined customer due diligence requirements so that SMEs can more easily access bank credit;**

Or. en

**Amendment 126**

**Ignazio Corrao, Eleonora Evi**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 2 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**2 a. Stresses the importance of increasing SMEs awareness of the single market, its rules and tools, also by simplifying the reference framework and improving communication on tailored opportunities ;**

Or. en

**Amendment 127**

**Jens Gieseke**

on behalf of the PPE Group

**Henna Virkkunen, Ivan Štefanec, Sven Schulze, Pilar del Castillo Vera, Eva Maydell, Pernille Weiss, Hildegard Bentele, Angelika Winzig, Maria da Graça Carvalho, Angelika Niebler, Tom Berendsen, Ioan-Rareş Bogdan, Vasile Blaga, Massimiliano Salini, Antonio Tajani, Roberta Metsola**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 2 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**2 a. Calls on the Commission to stand up for open and rules-based cross-border trade and improve access to international markets for Europe's SMEs;**

Or. en

**Amendment 128**

**Martina Dlabajová, Christophe Grudler, Iskra Mihaylova, Ivars Ijabs, Claudia Gamon, Bart Groothuis, Nicola Danti, Mauri Pekkarinen, Susana Solís Pérez, Dragoş Pîslaru, Klemen Grošelj, Fredrick Federley, Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, Martin Hojsík, Valérie Hayer, Nicola Beer**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 2 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**2 b. Underlines that initiatives and programmes such as EIC, EIT, InvestEU and Digital Europe will be crucial in ensuring support to SMEs developing innovative solutions and breakthrough technologies, contributing to achieve EU technological leadership and future growth; Calls on the Member States to ensure the support to innovation opportunities for SMEs and maximise synergies with similar EU programmes in their national innovation strategies; stresses that innovative SMEs specialising in forefront technologies, such as AI, Big Data, VR/AR, sustainable transport, robotics, distributed ledger technologies, digital health, 3D printing, energy storage, innovative food production or**

*recycling, rely on outside revenues to survive, especially in times of recession;*

Or. en

**Amendment 129**

**Jens Gieseke**

on behalf of the PPE Group

**Vasile Blaga, Ioan-Rareş Bogdan, Tom Berendsen, Angelika Niebler, Maria da Graça Carvalho, Angelika Winzig, Hildegard Bentele, Pernille Weiss, Eva Maydell, Pilar del Castillo Vera, Sven Schulze, Ivan Štefanec, Henna Virkkunen, Antonio Tajani, Massimiliano Salini, Roberta Metsola**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 2 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**2 b. *Calls for strengthening the actions aimed to tackle skills' mismatches and shortages and to equip SMEs with robust basic, digital and green-related skills for rapidly changing labour markets; underlines the need to support SMEs to enforce their capacities to undertake an efficient transformation and to increase labour skills, also in light of the acceleration induced by the Covid-19 crisis and stresses the role that the Commissions' Skills Agenda can play to this end, in particular promoting investments in further vocational trainings and apprenticeship programmes in SMEs;***

Or. en

**Amendment 130**

**Sara Skyttedal**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 2 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**2 b. *Notes its concern over the***

*Commission's new proposal for harmonised standards and their increased involvement in the voluntary system for producing technical standards, emphasises that this restricts the ability of the European Legislative Framework to adapt to technological advances entering the market which in turn undermines Europe's ability to impact the technical content in international standards and, as a result, the competitiveness of European industry and SMEs.*

Or. en

**Amendment 131**  
**Ignazio Corrao, Eleonora Evi**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 2 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*2 b. Recalls that SMEs usually do not have sufficient financial and human resources to participate on an equal footing with other stakeholders, in particular multinational corporations, in the process of formulating policies and rules affecting them; calls on the Commission and the Member States, therefore, to ensure a greater and more transparent involvement of SMEs in order to ensure an inclusive and effective policy formulation process.*

Or. en

**Amendment 132**  
**Ignazio Corrao, Eleonora Evi**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 2 c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*2 c. Believes that circularity principles must be at the centre of the modernisation of the Union's economy by prioritising the reduction of its energy and resource needs and the transformation of the whole industrial sectors, its production processes, business models, value chains and ultimately its products and services; Calls on the Commission to set sectoral resource efficiency targets and to implement supporting, monitoring and control measures based on measurable and credible indicators;*

Or. en

### **Amendment 133**

**Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

### **Motion for a resolution**

#### **Paragraph 3**

#### *Motion for a resolution*

3. Welcomes the opening of fast-track training programmes in digitalisation through the Digital Europe programme; stresses that training is instrumental to enhancing the skills of SME personnel in areas such as **blockchain**, cybersecurity and artificial intelligence; calls on the Commission to carry out an ex post evaluation in order to ensure that the programme meets its objectives;

#### *Amendment*

3. Welcomes the opening of fast-track training programmes in digitalisation through the Digital Europe programme; stresses that training is instrumental to enhancing the skills of SME personnel in areas such as **distributed ledger technologies**, cybersecurity and artificial intelligence; **highlights that digital crash courses for SMEs should be preceded by subsidised programmes allowing SME owners and managers to identify their digital needs and opportunities; considers it important to link digital and climate considerations in these programs, for instance by facilitating digital tracking and hence transparency throughout value chains or creating an Internet-of-Things that accelerates the circular economy and help raise awareness about potential energy and resource savings, including of the IT system itself**; calls on the Commission to carry out an ex post evaluation in order to ensure that the



programme meets its objectives;

Or. en

#### **Amendment 134**

**Martina Dlabajová, Christophe Grudler, Iskra Mihaylova, Ivars Ijabs, Claudia Gamon, Bart Groothuis, Nicola Danti, Mauri Pekkarinen, Susana Solís Pérez, Dragoş Pîslaru, Klemen Grošelj, Fredrick Federley, Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, Martin Hojsík, Valérie Hayer, Nicola Beer**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 3**

###### *Motion for a resolution*

3. Welcomes the *opening of fast-track training programmes in digitalisation through the Digital Europe programme; stresses that training is instrumental to enhancing the skills of SME personnel* in areas such as *blockchain, cybersecurity and artificial intelligence*; calls on the Commission to *carry out an ex post evaluation* in order to ensure that the *programme meets its objectives*;

###### *Amendment*

3. Welcomes the *commitment towards the Digital Europe Programme, in particular the establishment of a network of European Digital and Innovation Hubs that will, inter alia, tackle skills mismatches and encourage specialisation in digital technologies and applications by supporting the design and delivery of high quality trainings; welcomes the Commission promise to open fast-track training through Digital Crash Courses for SME employees* <sup>1a</sup> *to become proficient* in areas such as *AI, cybersecurity or distributed ledger technologies, building on the experiences of the Digital Skills and Jobs Coalition platform*; calls on the Commission to *take stock of its findings after carrying out ex post evaluations of these actions*, in order to ensure that the objectives *are met*;

Or. en

#### **Amendment 135**

**Josianne Cutajar, Łukasz Kohut, Carlos Zorrinho, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Adriana Maldonado López, Eva Kaili, Robert Hajšel, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Nicolás González Casares, Alicia Homs Ginel**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 3**

*Motion for a resolution*

3. Welcomes the opening of fast-track training programmes in digitalisation through the Digital Europe programme; stresses that training is instrumental to enhancing the skills of SME personnel in areas such as blockchain, cybersecurity and artificial intelligence; calls on the Commission to carry out an ex post evaluation in order to ensure that the programme meets its objectives;

*Amendment*

3. Welcomes the opening of fast-track training programmes in digitalisation through the Digital Europe programme; stresses that training is instrumental to enhancing the skills of SME personnel in areas such as blockchain, cybersecurity and artificial intelligence; calls on the Commission to carry out an ex post evaluation in order to ensure that the programme meets its objectives; ***agrees with the European Commission that at least one Digital Innovation Hub per Member State[1] should have a high degree of specialisation in artificial intelligence<sup>1a</sup>***;

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***<sup>1a</sup> WHITE PAPER On Artificial Intelligence - A European approach to excellence and trust - COM(2020) 65 final***

Or. en

**Amendment 136**  
**Paolo Borchia**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 3**

*Motion for a resolution*

3. Welcomes the opening of fast-track training programmes in digitalisation through the Digital Europe programme; stresses that training is instrumental to enhancing the skills of SME personnel in areas such as blockchain, cybersecurity and artificial intelligence; calls on the Commission to carry out an ex post evaluation in order to ensure that the programme meets its objectives;

*Amendment*

3. Welcomes the opening of fast-track training programmes in digitalisation through the Digital Europe programme; stresses that training ***of entrepreneurs and their personnel*** is instrumental to enhancing the skills of SME personnel in areas such as blockchain, cybersecurity and artificial intelligence; calls on the Commission to carry out an ex post evaluation in order to ensure that the programme meets its objectives ***and provides training programmes and accompanying measures dedicated to micro, small and medium-size enterprises***;

**Amendment 137**  
**Clara Ponsatí Obiols**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 3**

*Motion for a resolution*

3. Welcomes the opening of fast-track training programmes in digitalisation through the Digital Europe programme; stresses that training is instrumental to enhancing the skills of SME personnel in areas such as blockchain, cybersecurity and artificial intelligence; calls on the Commission to carry out an ex post evaluation in order to ensure that the programme meets its objectives;

*Amendment*

3. Welcomes the opening of fast-track training programmes in digitalisation through the Digital Europe programme; stresses that training is instrumental to enhancing the skills of SME personnel in areas such as blockchain, cybersecurity and artificial intelligence; calls on the Commission to carry out an ex post evaluation in order to ensure that the programme meets its objectives **and ensures that no Member State or company takes advantage of such digitalisation to undermine citizens' fundamental rights and freedoms**;

**Amendment 138**  
**Patrizia Toia**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 3**

*Motion for a resolution*

3. Welcomes the opening of fast-track training programmes in digitalisation through the Digital Europe programme; stresses that training is instrumental to enhancing the skills of SME personnel in areas such as blockchain, cybersecurity and artificial intelligence; calls on the Commission to carry out an ex post evaluation in order to ensure that the programme meets its objectives;

*Amendment*

3. Welcomes the opening of fast-track training programmes in digitalisation through the Digital Europe programme; stresses that training is instrumental to enhancing the skills of SME personnel in areas such as blockchain, cybersecurity and artificial intelligence; calls on the Commission to **make sure that Digital Europe will support training initiatives for and provide technical assistance to micro enterprises and to** carry out an ex post

evaluation in order to ensure that the programme meets its objectives;

Or. en

### **Amendment 139**

**Pietro Fiocchi**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 3**

###### *Motion for a resolution*

3. Welcomes the opening of fast-track training programmes in digitalisation through the Digital Europe programme; stresses that training is instrumental to enhancing the skills of SME personnel in areas such as blockchain, cybersecurity and artificial intelligence; calls on the Commission to carry out an ex post evaluation in order to ensure that the programme meets its objectives;

###### *Amendment*

3. Welcomes the opening of fast-track training programmes in digitalisation through the Digital Europe programme; stresses that training is instrumental to enhancing the skills of SME personnel in areas such as blockchain, cybersecurity and artificial intelligence; calls on the Commission to carry out an ex post evaluation in order to ensure that the programme meets its objectives ***and provides training programs and accompanying measures dedicated to Micro SMEs;***

Or. en

### **Amendment 140**

**Jens Gieseke**

on behalf of the PPE Group

**Vasile Blaga, Ioan-Rareş Bogdan, Tom Berendsen, Angelika Niebler, Maria da Graça Carvalho, Angelika Winzig, Hildegard Bentele, Pernille Weiss, Eva Maydell, Pilar del Castillo Vera, Sven Schulze, Ivan Štefanec, Henna Virkkunen, Massimiliano Salini, Antonio Tajani, Roberta Metsola**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 3 a (new)**

###### *Motion for a resolution*

###### *Amendment*

***3 a. Reminds that enhancing managerial skills of both employees and entrepreneurs in small enterprises is a relevant way to improve their innovation***

*capacities; underlines how the adoption of management training programmes together with technical assistance in the use of ICT and new technologies could be an effective combination to improve the ability of smaller companies to benefit from in-house innovation, understand local markets, benchmark their performances, integrate IPR in the overall business strategy and open up SMEs to the new opportunities of the ongoing digital transformation;*

Or. en

#### **Amendment 141**

**Josianne Cutajar, Łukasz Kohut, Carlos Zorrinho, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Adriana Maldonado López, Eva Kaili, Robert Hajšel, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Nicolás González Casares, Alicia Homs Ginel**

#### **Motion for a resolution Paragraph 3 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*3 a. Believes that, in order to make public administration more business friendly, e-government tools, digital innovation policies and the enhancement of digital skills should be promoted within the public sector and among its employees; calls on the Commission to ensure the exchange of national and regional best practices in the field, with specific reference to the public management of economic competitiveness;*

Or. en

#### **Amendment 142**

**Ignazio Corrao, Eleonora Evi**

#### **Motion for a resolution Paragraph 3 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**3 a. Calls on Member States to ensure SMEs develop the necessary skills for successfully engaging in the green and digital transitions; believes that special attention should be given to enhance workforce's digital literacy as well as to raise awareness and increase preparedness on the threats associated to ICTS, such as cyberattacks and data breaches.**

Or. en

**Amendment 143**  
**Izaskun Bilbao Barandica**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 3 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**3 a. Regrets that the promotion of equality is a factor of competitiveness. Insists that the so-called "glass ceiling" hampers competitiveness by making it difficult, based on gender, for available skills and knowledge to be integrated into the production system.**

Or. en

**Amendment 144**

**Jens Gieseke**

on behalf of the PPE Group

**Henna Virkkunen, Ivan Štefanec, Sven Schulze, Pilar del Castillo Vera, Eva Maydell, Pernille Weiss, Hildegard Bentele, Angelika Winzig, Maria da Graça Carvalho, Angelika Niebler, Tom Berendsen, Ioan-Rareș Bogdan, Vasile Blaga, Sara Skytvedal, Antonio Tajani, Massimiliano Salini**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 3 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**3 b. Notes that harmonising intellectual property rights has long been known as an important step in delivering a single market, therefore, calls on the Commission to prioritize the proposed Intellectual Property Action Plan in order to create a single market that also embraces copyrighted goods and patented inventions which will benefit the global competitiveness of innovative SMEs;**

Or. en

#### **Amendment 145**

**Josianne Cutajar, Łukasz Kohut, Carlos Zorrinho, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Adriana Maldonado López, Eva Kaili, Robert Hajšel, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Nicolás González Casares, Alicia Homs Ginel**

#### **Motion for a resolution Paragraph 4**

##### *Motion for a resolution*

4. Calls for EU innovation policies and instruments to also support ***non-digital SMEs***, particularly in traditional sectors where digitalisation is not well developed;

##### *Amendment*

4. Calls for ***pervasive*** EU innovation policies and instruments to also support ***not only those SMEs that would innovate in any case, but also, according to their needs, those lagging behind***, particularly in traditional sectors where digitalisation is not well developed; ***underlines in this regard the potential of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology and its Knowledge and Innovation Communities as they represent an effective way to enhance the collaboration between SMEs, research centres and universities with the scope of promoting local entrepreneurship and addressing the most urgent societal challenges of our age; insists that Horizon Europe represents a priority and needs robust funding;***

Or. en

#### **Amendment 146**

**Martina Dlabajová, Christophe Grudler, Iskra Mihaylova, Ivars Ijabs, Claudia Gamon, Bart Groothuis, Nicola Danti, Mauri Pekkarinen, Susana Solís Pérez, Dragoş Pîslaru, Klemen Grošelj, Fredrick Federley, Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, Martin Hojsík, Valérie Hayer, Nicola Beer**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 4**

###### *Motion for a resolution*

4. Calls for EU innovation policies and instruments to also support non-digital SMEs, particularly in traditional sectors where digitalisation is not well developed;

###### *Amendment*

4. Calls for EU innovation ***and digital*** policies and instruments to also support non-digital SMEs, particularly in traditional sectors where digitalisation is not well developed; ***notes that further action shall maximise access to information and take-up of digital technologies to professionalise business management and further explore use of cloud computing, AI and data analytics tools; deplores that most SMEs do not have access to the data they create; welcomes in this respect the European Data Strategy geared towards creating a genuine market for data, where SMEs will have easy access to and use of data;***

Or. en

#### **Amendment 147**

**Paolo Borchia, Joëlle Mélin, Thierry Mariani, Jérôme Rivière**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 4**

###### *Motion for a resolution*

4. Calls for EU innovation policies and instruments to also support non-digital SMEs, particularly in traditional sectors where digitalisation is not well developed;

###### *Amendment*

4. Calls for EU innovation policies and instruments to also support non-digital SMEs, particularly in traditional sectors, ***such as manufacturing***, where digitalisation is not well developed; ***regrets that non-digital SMEs are increasingly excluded by European-level R&I financing programmes;***

Or. en



**Amendment 148**  
**Margarita de la Pisa Carrión**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 4**

*Motion for a resolution*

4. Calls for EU innovation policies and instruments to also support non-digital SMEs, particularly in traditional sectors where digitalisation is not well developed;

*Amendment*

4. Calls for EU innovation policies and instruments to also support non-digital SMEs, particularly in traditional sectors where digitalisation is not well developed ***or is not relevant in the productive and manufacturing processes;***

Or. en

**Amendment 149**  
**Sara Skyttedal**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 4**

*Motion for a resolution*

4. Calls for EU innovation policies and instruments to also support non-digital SMEs, particularly in traditional sectors where digitalisation is not well developed;

*Amendment*

4. Calls for EU innovation policies and instruments ***are kept as sector-neutral as possible*** to also support non-digital SMEs, particularly in traditional sectors where digitalisation is not well developed;

Or. en

**Amendment 150**  
**Pietro Fiocchi**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 4**

*Motion for a resolution*

4. Calls for EU innovation policies and instruments to ***also*** support ***non-digital*** SMEs, particularly ***in traditional*** sectors

*Amendment*

4. Calls for EU innovation policies and ***dedicated*** instruments to support SMEs, particularly ***Micro, in all***

*where digitalisation is not well developed;*

*manufacturing* sectors;

Or. en

### **Amendment 151**

**Jens Gieseke**

on behalf of the PPE Group

**Henna Virkkunen, Ivan Štefanec, Sven Schulze, Pilar del Castillo Vera, Eva Maydell, Pernille Weiss, Maria da Graça Carvalho, Angelika Niebler, Tom Berendsen, Ioan-Rareş Bogdan, Vasile Blaga, Hildegard Bentele, Angelika Winzig, Roberta Metsola**

### **Motion for a resolution**

#### **Paragraph 4 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**4 a. Calls for EU policies and instruments to support innovation and digitalisation of all SMEs; considers it imperative to digitalise the Union's SMEs including traditional ones; calls on the Commission and the Member States to invest, inter alia, in the data economy, artificial intelligence, smart production, Internet of Things (IoT), quantum computing,**

Or. en

### **Amendment 152**

**Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

### **Motion for a resolution**

#### **Paragraph 5**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

5. Recalls the role of vocational training, which *is* essential for ***promoting the absorption*** of graduates and unemployed workers into the labour market, and ensuring that SMEs can count on properly trained staff; encourages Member States to make the best use of the forthcoming European Social Fund Plus

5. Recalls the role of vocational ***education and training and lifelong learning, including re-skilling and upskilling***, which *are* essential for ***the integration*** of graduates and unemployed workers ***as well as legal migrants and refugees*** into the labour market, and ensuring that SMEs can count on properly

(ESF Plus) **and** the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF);

trained staff; encourages Member States to make the best use of the forthcoming European Social Fund Plus (ESF Plus), the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) **and the Just Transition Fund (JTF)**; **calls on the Commission to work closely with the Member States in order to draw up medium- and long-term forecasts regarding the skills required by the labour market and to ensure that there is a good skill match between job seekers and job providers; calls for enhanced programmes offering innovative lifelong learning tools to cater for the needs and constraints of employers and employees in SMEs;**

Or. en

#### **Amendment 153**

**Josianne Cutajar, Łukasz Kohut, Carlos Zorrinho, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Adriana Maldonado López, Eva Kaili, Robert Hajšel, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Nicolás González Casares, Alicia Homs Ginel**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 5**

###### *Motion for a resolution*

5. Recalls the role of vocational training, which is essential for promoting the **absorption** of graduates and unemployed workers into the labour market, and ensuring that SMEs can count on properly trained staff; encourages Member States to make the best use of the forthcoming European Social Fund Plus (ESF Plus) **and the** European Regional Development Fund (ERDF);

###### *Amendment*

5. Recalls the role of vocational training **and of lifelong learning**, which is essential for promoting the **reskilling and the upskilling** of graduates and unemployed workers **to enable their absorption** into the labour market, and ensuring that SMEs can count on properly trained staff; encourages **the Commission and Member States to enhance the collaboration in order** to make the best use of the forthcoming European Social Fund Plus (ESF Plus), European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) **and Just Transition Fund (JTF) according to the specific needs of the local communities; welcomes that the JTF will, among other things, funnel investments towards SMEs in order to contribute to the reduction of social inequalities;**

## Amendment 154

Ignazio Corrao, Eleonora Evi

### Motion for a resolution

#### Paragraph 5

##### *Motion for a resolution*

5. Recalls the role of vocational training, which *is* essential for promoting the absorption of graduates and unemployed workers into the labour market, and ensuring that SMEs can count on properly trained staff; encourages Member States to make the best use of the forthcoming European Social Fund Plus (ESF Plus) and the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF);

##### *Amendment*

5. Recalls the role of vocational training **and life-long learning**, which **are** essential for promoting the absorption of graduates and unemployed workers into the labour market, and ensuring that SMEs can count on properly trained staff; encourages Member States to make the best use of the forthcoming European Social Fund Plus (ESF Plus) and the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF);

Or. en

## Amendment 155

Martina Dlabajová, Christophe Grudler, Iskra Mihaylova, Ivars Ijabs, Claudia Gamon, Bart Groothuis, Nicola Danti, Mauri Pekkarinen, Susana Solís Pérez, Dragoș Pîslaru, Klemen Grošelj, Fredrick Federley, Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, Martin Hojsík, Valérie Hayer, Nicola Beer

### Motion for a resolution

#### Paragraph 5

##### *Motion for a resolution*

5. Recalls the role of vocational training, which is essential for ***promoting the absorption of graduates and unemployed workers into the labour market, and ensuring that SMEs can count on properly trained staff***; encourages Member States to make the best use of the forthcoming European Social Fund Plus (ESF Plus) and the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF);

##### *Amendment*

5. Recalls the role of vocational training, which is essential for ***tackling the mismatch between skilled labour demand and supply***; encourages Member States to make the best use of the forthcoming European Social Fund Plus (ESF Plus) and the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) ***in synergy with the Digital Europe Programme and Horizon Europe***;

**Amendment 156**

**Josianne Cutajar, Łukasz Kohut, Carlos Zorrinho, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Adriana Maldonado López, Eva Kaili, Robert Hajšel, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Nicolás González Casares, Alicia Homs Ginel**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 5 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***5 a. Regrets that the gender gap in entrepreneurship and access to finance for micro, small and medium enterprises led by women still persists; welcomes the gender-smart financing initiative that the Commission will launch; calls on the Commission to assess the barriers that still hamper from fully unleashing women's entrepreneurial potential and to enhance the exchange of best practices also when it comes to boosting women's skills and self-confidence in this field; underlines that the use of sex-disaggregated data will help make this assessment more thorough and will improve the overall quality of the decision-making process;***

Or. en

**Amendment 157**

**Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 5 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***5 a. Urges to tackle SME knowledge and skills gaps in relation to environmentally sustainable technologies, practices and business models; calls on the EU Commission and Members States***

*to accelerate and expand initiatives to identify the skill needs and address the gaps in the labour market through education, professional training strategies and skills development programs targeted to SMEs, particularly for sectors in which EU sustainable energy and environmental objectives require fundamental transformation of products, processes and services.*

Or. en

**Amendment 158**

**Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, Martina Dlabajová**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 5 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*5 a. Insists that this process of connecting skills and training requires a structured, systematic and intense relationship between the education system and the productive system. Encourages the development of these connection strategies and highlights the role that SMEs can play in this process.*

Or. en

**Amendment 159**

**Sandra Pereira, Sira Rego, Giorgos Georgiou, Cornelia Ernst, Marisa Matias, Manuel Bompard, Marc Botenga**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 5 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*5a. Highlights the need to design and implement measures to promote training for leaders and executives and provide management, organisational, technological and commercial support,*

*designed specifically for the needs of microenterprises and small businesses;*

Or. pt

### **Amendment 160**

**Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 6**

###### *Motion for a resolution*

6. Recalls that SMEs involved in traditional handicrafts **represent** a particularly vulnerable segment of the SME network; acknowledges their economic and social value, and calls on Member States to ensure the **sector's competitiveness**;

###### *Amendment*

6. Recalls that **the SME strategy needs to cover different sizes and types of SMEs, from traditional, social to high-tech end; considers** SMEs involved in traditional handicrafts, **social economy- and micro-enterprises** a particularly vulnerable segment of the SME network; acknowledges their economic and social value, and calls on Member States to ensure the **sectors' survival and vitality**.

Or. en

### **Amendment 161**

**Paolo Borchia**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 6**

###### *Motion for a resolution*

6. Recalls that SMEs involved in traditional handicrafts represent a particularly vulnerable segment of the SME network; acknowledges their economic and social value, **and** calls on Member States to ensure the sector's competitiveness;

###### *Amendment*

6. Recalls that SMEs involved in traditional handicrafts represent a particularly vulnerable segment of the SME network; acknowledges their economic and social value; calls on Member States to ensure the sector's competitiveness, **also by promoting generational transition and self-entrepreneurship**;

Or. en

### Amendment 162

**Martina Dlabajová, Christophe Grudler, Iskra Mihaylova, Ivars Ijabs, Claudia Gamon, Bart Groothuis, Nicola Danti, Mauri Pekkarinen, Susana Solís Pérez, Dragoş Pîslaru, Klemen Grošelj, Fredrick Federley, Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, Martin Hojsík, Valérie Hayer, Nicola Beer**

#### Motion for a resolution

##### Paragraph 6

###### *Motion for a resolution*

6. Recalls that SMEs involved in traditional **handicrafts** represent a particularly vulnerable segment of the SME network; acknowledges their economic and social value, and calls on Member States to ensure the sector's competitiveness;

###### *Amendment*

6. Recalls that SMEs involved in traditional **creative sectors** represent a particularly vulnerable segment of the SME network; acknowledges their economic and social value, and calls on Member States to ensure the sector's competitiveness **and access to information over innovation opportunities**;

Or. en

### Amendment 163

**Patrizia Toia**

#### Motion for a resolution

##### Paragraph 6

###### *Motion for a resolution*

6. Recalls that **SMEs involved in** traditional handicrafts represent **a** particularly vulnerable **segment** of the SME network; acknowledges their economic and social value, and calls on Member States to ensure the **sector's** competitiveness;

###### *Amendment*

6. Recalls that **tourism, culture, sale, transport, services and** traditional handicrafts **SMEs** represent particularly vulnerable **segments** of the SME network; acknowledges their economic and social value, and calls on Member States **and the Commission** to ensure the **sectors'** competitiveness;

Or. en

### Amendment 164

**Sandra Pereira, Sira Rego, Giorgos Georgiou, Cornelia Ernst, Marisa Matias, Manuel Bompard, Marc Botenga**



**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 6**

*Motion for a resolution*

6. Recalls that SMEs involved in traditional handicrafts represent a particularly vulnerable segment of the SME network; acknowledges their economic and social value, and calls on Member States to ensure *the sector's competitiveness*;

*Amendment*

6. Recalls that SMEs involved in traditional handicrafts represent a particularly vulnerable segment of the SME network; acknowledges their economic and social value, and calls on Member States to ensure *specific support for the protection and enhancement of this sector*;

Or. pt

**Amendment 165**

**Josianne Cutajar, Łukasz Kohut, Carlos Zorrinho, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Adriana Maldonado López, Eva Kaili, Robert Hajšel, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Nicolás González Casares, Alicia Homs Ginel**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 6**

*Motion for a resolution*

6. Recalls that SMEs involved in traditional handicrafts represent a particularly vulnerable segment of the SME network; acknowledges their economic and social value, and calls on Member States to ensure the sector's competitiveness;

*Amendment*

6. Recalls that SMEs involved in traditional handicrafts represent a particularly vulnerable segment of the SME network; acknowledges their *historical, cultural*, economic and social value, and calls on Member States to ensure the sector's competitiveness;

Or. en

**Amendment 166**  
**Pietro Fiocchi**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 6**

*Motion for a resolution*

6. Recalls that SMEs involved in

*Amendment*

6. Recalls that SMEs involved in

traditional handicrafts represent a particularly vulnerable segment of the SME network; acknowledges their economic and social value, and calls on Member States to ensure the sector's competitiveness;

traditional handicrafts represent a particularly vulnerable segment of the SME network; acknowledges their economic and social value, and calls on **the Commission and** Member States to ensure the sector's competitiveness;

Or. en

### **Amendment 167**

**Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, Martina Dlabajová**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 6 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**6 a. Encourages the development of a specific digitisation strategy for European SMEs operating in the field of quality food production and processing as a key factor for their operation both in the single and international markets.**

Or. en

### **Amendment 168**

**Margarita de la Pisa Carrión**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 6 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**6 a. Calls on the Commission and Member States to ensure the investments needed infrastructure to guarantee broad access in all European regions, in particular in rural areas and the regions covered by the Article 174 of the TFEU;**

Or. en

### **Amendment 169**

**Martina Dlabajová, Christophe Grudler, Iskra Mihaylova, Ivars Ijabs, Claudia Gamon, Bart Groothuis, Nicola Danti, Mauri Pekkarinen, Susana Solís Pérez, Dragoş Pîslaru, Klemen Grošelj, Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, Martin Hojsík, Valérie Hayer, Nicola Beer**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 7**

*Motion for a resolution*

7. Regrets that SMEs are increasingly hindered by unfair competition from multinational corporations (MNCs), whose increasing prominence within the internal market has contributed to social dumping and labour deregulation, as well as the insolvency of many SMEs;

*Amendment*

7. Regrets that SMEs are increasingly hindered by unfair competition from multinational corporations (MNCs), whose increasing prominence within the internal market has contributed to social dumping and labour deregulation, as well as the insolvency of many SMEs; ***calls for a rigorous and effective enforcement of competition regulation to ensure that SMEs benefit from the Single Market on a fair basis and harness the opportunity to scale-up;***

Or. en

**Amendment 170**

**Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 7**

*Motion for a resolution*

7. Regrets that SMEs are increasingly hindered by unfair competition from ***multinational corporations (MNCs), whose increasing prominence within the internal market has contributed*** to social dumping and labour deregulation, as well as the insolvency of many SMEs;

*Amendment*

7. Regrets that SMEs are increasingly hindered by unfair competition ***and market practices that can result from the abuse of market positions of large often contributing*** to social dumping and labour deregulation, as well as the insolvency of many SMEs; ***calls on the Commission to ensure that the enforcement of the Union's competition law effectively guarantees a level playing field between SMEs and larger and more resourceful actors,***

Or. en

## Amendment 171

Paolo Borchia, Thierry Mariani, Joëlle Mélin, Jérôme Rivière

### Motion for a resolution

#### Paragraph 7

##### *Motion for a resolution*

7. **Regrets that SMEs are increasingly hindered by** unfair competition from multinational corporations (MNCs), whose increasing prominence within the internal market has contributed to social dumping and labour deregulation, as well as the insolvency of many SMEs;

##### *Amendment*

7. **Calls on Member States to implement measures to protect micro, small and medium-size enterprises from** unfair competition from multinational corporations (MNCs), whose increasing prominence within the internal market has contributed to social dumping and labour deregulation, as well as the insolvency of many SMEs;

Or. en

## Amendment 172

Jens Gieseke

on behalf of the PPE Group

Eva Maydell, Henna Virkkunen, Ivan Štefanec, Pilar del Castillo Vera, Pernille Weiss, Angelika Winzig, Hildegard Bentele, Maria da Graça Carvalho, Angelika Niebler, Tom Berendsen, Vasile Blaga, Ioan-Rareş Bogdan, Sven Schulze

### Motion for a resolution

#### Paragraph 7

##### *Motion for a resolution*

7. Regrets that SMEs are increasingly hindered by unfair competition from multinational corporations (MNCs), whose increasing prominence within the internal market has contributed to **social dumping and labour deregulation, as well as** the insolvency of many SMEs;

##### *Amendment*

7. Regrets that SMEs are increasingly hindered by unfair competition from multinational corporations (MNCs), whose increasing prominence within the internal market has contributed to the insolvency of many SMEs;

Or. en

## Amendment 173

Robert Roos, Jessica Stegrud

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 7**

*Motion for a resolution*

7. Regrets that SMEs are increasingly hindered by unfair competition from multinational corporations (MNCs), ***whose increasing prominence within the internal market has contributed to social dumping and labour deregulation, as well as the insolvency of many SMEs;***

*Amendment*

7. Regrets that SMEs are increasingly hindered by unfair competition from multinational corporations (MNCs); ***stresses that the free movement of workers can contribute to social dumping and that especially MNCs benefit from this;***

Or. en

**Amendment 174**

**Jens Gieseke**

on behalf of the PPE Group

**Markus Pieper, Ivan Štefanec, Maria da Graça Carvalho, Angelika Winzig, Pernille Weiss, Angelika Niebler, Tom Berendsen, Ioan-Rareş Bogdan, Vasile Blaga, Sven Schulze, Eva Maydell, Hildegard Bentele, Massimiliano Salini, Antonio Tajani, Roberta Metsola**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 7 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***7 a. Calls to allow European champions to emerge, while creating opportunities for SMEs to profit from such champions, e.g. by involving SMEs in the supply chain; emphasises that with global and European supply chains currently interrupted by restrictive measures on trade, it is increasingly important to ensure that European industry and SMEs can source inputs from a diverse range of third countries, by harmonising the technical content of European and international standards; regrets that this is currently being hamstrung by a bureaucratic approach by the Commission;***

Or. en

**Amendment 175**

**Sandra Pereira, Sira Rego, Giorgos Georgiou, Cornelia Ernst, Marisa Matias, Manuel Bompard, Marc Botenga**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 7 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**7a. Advocates the need for effective measures to protect SMEs from the immense, and at times staggering, bargaining, financial and even political power held by large companies and the economic groups to which they belong, in the context of the economic relations established; stresses that such relationships are highly discriminatory for SMEs, with the dominance of large companies acting within the framework of natural monopolies or oligopolies in areas such as energy, banking and insurance, communications and telecommunications, etc.**

Or. pt

**Amendment 176**

**Martina Dlabajová, Christophe Grudler, Iskra Mihaylova, Ivars Ijabs, Claudia Gamon, Bart Groothuis, Mauri Pekkarinen, Susana Solís Pérez, Dragoş Pîslaru, Klemen Grošelj, Fredrick Federley, Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, Martin Hojsík, Valérie Hayer, Nicola Beer**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 7 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**7 a. Welcomes the Commission's REFIT initiative to see if the SME definition is still fit for purpose; notes that clarity is needed on how entrepreneurs, self-employed workers, start-ups, cooperative businesses and mid-caps that face similar challenges to SMEs are considered;**

**Amendment 177**

**Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, Martina Dlabajová**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 7 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**7 a. Stresses the importance of promoting the social prestige of entrepreneurship and encouraging entrepreneurial culture. Encourages the incorporation of skills and attitudes related to entrepreneurship in the early stages of education.**

Or. en

**Amendment 178**

**Margarita de la Pisa Carrión**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 7 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**7 a. Calls upon Member States to improve their legal systems of enabling to recover businesses in danger of insolvency through mechanisms of a second opportunity.**

Or. en

**Amendment 179**

**Jens Gieseke**

on behalf of the PPE Group

**Henna Virkkunen, Ivan Štefanec, Eva Maydell, Pernille Weiss, Hildegard Bentele, Angelika Winzig, Maria da Graça Carvalho, Angelika Niebler, Tom Berendsen, Ioan-Rareş Bogdan, Vasile Blaga, Sven Schulze**

**Motion for a resolution**

## Paragraph 7 b (new)

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**7 b. Recalls that mid-caps that do not meet the criteria to be classified as SMEs contribute significantly to employment and growth, especially in some Member States, and therefore require an additional and separate mid-cap definition, without prejudice to the definition of and support for SME, in order to ensure that mid-caps with 250 to 499 employees can receive more assistance and be better promoted;**

Or. en

## Amendment 180

**Jens Gieseke**

on behalf of the PPE Group

**Henna Virkkunen, Ivan Štefanec, Pilar del Castillo Vera, Eva Maydell, Pernille Weiss, Hildegard Bentele, Angelika Winzig, Maria da Graça Carvalho, Angelika Niebler, Tom Berendsen, Ioan-Rareș Bogdan, Vasile Blaga, Sven Schulze, Roberta Metsola**

## Motion for a resolution

### Paragraph 7 c (new)

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**7 c. Highlights that the SME strategy should be developed in line with the Industrial Strategy, the Green Deal, the European Data Strategy and the Circular Economy Action Plan;**

Or. en

## Amendment 181

**Jens Gieseke**

on behalf of the PPE Group

**Henna Virkkunen, Ivan Štefanec, Pilar del Castillo Vera, Eva Maydell, Pernille Weiss, Hildegard Bentele, Angelika Winzig, Maria da Graça Carvalho, Angelika Niebler, Tom Berendsen, Vasile Blaga, Sven Schulze, Ioan-Rareș Bogdan, Massimiliano Salini, Antonio Tajani, Roberta Metsola**



**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 7 d (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**7 d. Highlights that lighthouse initiatives such as the battery or hydrogen alliances need to entail strong SME components;**

Or. en

**Amendment 182**

**Jens Gieseke**

on behalf of the PPE Group

**Henna Virkkunen, Ivan Štefanec, Pilar del Castillo Vera, Eva Maydell, Pernille Weiss, Hildegard Bentele, Angelika Winzig, Maria da Graça Carvalho, Angelika Niebler, Tom Berendsen, Ioan-Rareș Bogdan, Vasile Blaga, Sven Schulze, Markus Pieper, Massimiliano Salini, Antonio Tajani, Roberta Metsola**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 7 e (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**7 e. Calls on the Commission for a swift appointment of a high level SME Envoy; calls on the Commission to place the SME Envoy as a central unit under the President of the Commission to allow oversight over SME issues in all Directorates-General; underlines that in order to create a level playing field in cross-border business and avoid unnecessary burden, focus should be put on addressing gold-plating by the SME Envoy and the Regulatory Scrutiny Board;**

Or. en

**Amendment 183**

**Jens Gieseke**

on behalf of the PPE Group

**Henna Virkkunen, Ivan Štefanec, Pilar del Castillo Vera, Eva Maydell, Pernille Weiss, Hildegard Bentele, Angelika Winzig, Maria da Graça Carvalho, Angelika Niebler, Tom**

**Berendsen, Ioan-Rareş Bogdan, Vasile Blaga, Sven Schulze, Markus Pieper,  
Massimiliano Salini, Antonio Tajani, Roberta Metsola**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 7 f (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**7 f. Calls on the Commission to expand the Regulatory Scrutiny Board, while ensuring a majority of independent experts, and to increase its own staff in addition to the support it receives by the Joint Research Centre; stresses that scrutiny of the SME dimension in all impact assessments needs to be strengthened including through competent representatives; recalls that during the EU's legislative processes, focus should be on quality of the impact assessment rather than on speed;**

Or. en

**Amendment 184**

**Jens Gieseke**

on behalf of the PPE Group

**Henna Virkkunen, Ivan Štefanec, Pilar del Castillo Vera, Eva Maydell, Pernille Weiss, Hildegard Bentele, Angelika Winzig, Maria da Graça Carvalho, Angelika Niebler, Tom Berendsen, Vasile Blaga, Sven Schulze, Ioan-Rareş Bogdan, Massimiliano Salini, Antonio Tajani, Roberta Metsola**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 7 g (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**7 g. Calls on the Commission to provide SMEs with a true single-entry point for all enquiries on EU financing opportunities; Ensures that EU support schemes, including addressing the COVID-19 aftermaths, contain a strong SME component;**

Or. en

## **Amendment 185**

**Jens Gieseke**

on behalf of the PPE Group

**Henna Virkkunen, Ivan Štefanec, Pilar del Castillo Vera, Eva Maydell, Pernille Weiss, Hildegard Bentele, Angelika Winzig, Maria da Graça Carvalho, Angelika Niebler, Tom Berendsen, Vasile Blaga, Sven Schulze, Ioan-Rareș Bogdan**

### **Motion for a resolution**

#### **Paragraph 7 h (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**7 h. Calls on the Commission to ensure that the funding under the European Innovation Council goes primarily to high-risk and high potential SMEs and innovators;**

Or. en

## **Amendment 186**

**Jens Gieseke**

on behalf of the PPE Group

**Henna Virkkunen, Ivan Štefanec, Pilar del Castillo Vera, Eva Maydell, Pernille Weiss, Hildegard Bentele, Angelika Winzig, Maria da Graça Carvalho, Angelika Niebler, Tom Berendsen, Vasile Blaga, Sven Schulze, Ioan-Rareș Bogdan, Roberta Metsola**

### **Motion for a resolution**

#### **Paragraph 7 i (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**7 i. Calls on the Commission to recognize sector-specific 'first movers' within the scheme of European SMEs in order to ensure that current role models continue to have a motivation to lead the way within innovation, decarbonisation and agile business development, in line with the Union's priorities and 2050 climate target;**

Or. en

## **Amendment 187**

**Jens Gieseke**

on behalf of the PPE Group

**Henna Virkkunen, Ivan Štefanec, Pilar del Castillo Vera, Eva Maydell, Pernille Weiss, Hildegard Bentele, Angelika Winzig, Maria da Graça Carvalho, Angelika Niebler, Tom Berendsen, Vasile Blaga, Sven Schulze, Ioan-Rareș Bogdan, Roberta Metsola**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 7 j (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**7 j. Highlights that the SME strategy should be developed in line with the Industrial Strategy, the SME strategy, the Green Deal, the European Data Strategy and the Circular Economy Action Plan; calls on the Commission to present and commit to a roadmap, including a timeline for actions and mid-term checkpoints, on the implementation of the SME Strategy;**

Or. en

**Amendment 188**

**Eva Kaili**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Subheading 2 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**- Notes that the COVID-19 pandemic highlights the fragility of the European industrial system, and calls for a European response to guarantee support to the fabric of SMEs in the EU; Considers that a European insurance scheme would be instrumental to cover business interruption losses for SMEs; Calls on the European Institutions, Governments, the insurance sector and businesses to devise a framework that would adequately support SMEs in case of future systemic risks.**

Or. en

**Amendment 189**  
**Margarita de la Pisa Carrión**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 8**

*Motion for a resolution*

8. Notes that following the WHO's pandemic alert, trade restrictions and supply chain disruptions have increased;

*Amendment*

8. Notes that following the WHO's pandemic alert, trade restrictions and supply chain disruptions have increased; ***In this sense, calls on the European Commission so that companies supplying medical supplies are not faced with difficulties in the internal market such as those that occurred during the COVID19 crisis.***

Or. en

**Amendment 190**  
**Josianne Cutajar, Łukasz Kohut, Carlos Zorrinho, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Adriana Maldonado López, Eva Kaili, Robert Hajšel, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Nicolás González Casares, Alicia Homs Ginel**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 8**

*Motion for a resolution*

8. Notes that following the WHO's pandemic alert, trade restrictions and supply chain disruptions have increased;

*Amendment*

8. Notes that following the WHO's pandemic alert, trade restrictions and supply chain disruptions have increased, ***demonstrating once again the need for the European Union to gain industrial autonomy and to ensure that strategic value chains, including the manufacturing industry, are located within its borders;***

Or. en

**Amendment 191**  
**Sara Skyttedal**

**Motion for a resolution**

## Paragraph 8

### *Motion for a resolution*

8. Notes that following the WHO's pandemic alert, trade restrictions and supply chain disruptions have increased;

### *Amendment*

8. Notes that following the WHO's pandemic alert, trade restrictions and supply chain disruptions have increased; ***acknowledges the important to prioritise proposals that will benefit SME most efficiently, if we are to realise the full potential of the EU single market even in times of crisis;***

Or. en

## Amendment 192

Paolo Borchia

### Motion for a resolution

#### Paragraph 8

### *Motion for a resolution*

8. Notes that following the WHO's pandemic alert, trade restrictions and supply chain disruptions have increased;

### *Amendment*

8. Notes that following the WHO's pandemic alert, trade restrictions and supply chain disruptions have increased; ***notes that many European companies were forced to stop production due to shortage of raw materials and components from China;***

Or. en

## Amendment 193

Martina Dlabajová, Christophe Grudler, Iskra Mihaylova, Ivars Ijabs, Claudia Gamon, Bart Groothuis, Nicola Danti, Mauri Pekkarinen, Susana Solís Pérez, Dragoş Pîslaru, Klemen Grošelj, Fredrick Federley, Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, Martin Hojsík, Valérie Hayer, Nicola Beer

### Motion for a resolution

#### Paragraph 8

### *Motion for a resolution*

8. Notes that following the ***WHO's pandemic alert***, trade restrictions and

### *Amendment*

8. Notes that following the ***implementation of measures aiming at***

supply chain disruptions have increased;

*containing the spread of Covid-19*, trade restrictions and supply chain disruptions have increased;

Or. en

#### **Amendment 194**

**Josianne Cutajar, Łukasz Kohut, Carlos Zorrinho, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Adriana Maldonado López, Eva Kaili, Robert Hajšel, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Nicolás González Casares, Alicia Homs Ginel**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 8 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**8 a. Is deeply concerned that the tourism and the hospitality industry, which is largely composed of SMEs, has been one of the sectors hit the hardest by the COVID-19 crisis; underlines the importance of continuous swift measures aiming at restoring and retaining the trust among travellers and operators; calls on the Commission to enable the exchange of best practices among Member States and regions to contribute to identifying the way forward for the sector's recovery;**

Or. en

#### **Amendment 195**

**Ignazio Corrao, Eleonora Evi**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 8 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**8 a. Acknowledges the COVID-19 pandemic has substantially changed the landscape in which SMEs are operating; calls for an overhauled strong and strategic SMEs agenda based on this new reality, with a concrete implementation plan of those instruments included in the**

**Amendment 196**

**Pietro Fiocchi**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 9**

*Motion for a resolution*

9. Is concerned that following the COVID-19 emergency, inequality between Member States in terms of their ability to support SMEs will exacerbate competition disparities within the internal market;

*Amendment*

9. Is concerned that following the COVID-19 emergency, inequality between Member States in terms of their ability to support SMEs *and of fiscal policy* will exacerbate competition disparities within the internal market;

**Amendment 197**

**Sandra Pereira, Sira Rego, Giorgos Georgiou, Cornelia Ernst, Marisa Matias, Manuel Bompard, Marc Botenga**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 9 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**9a. Draws attention to the fact that the instruments used in the EU's response to COVID-19 thus far, which are inaccessible to many SMEs, are slow, insufficient and inadequate; advocates for the EU to take more responsibility in terms of funding and guaranteeing SME solvency, jobs, wages and workers' rights, reducing the harmful effects of excessive indebtedness;**

**Amendment 198**



**Margarita de la Pisa Carrión**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 9 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**9 a. Welcomes the Commission's proposal to support the sectors that have been the most hit by the current crisis and asks it to prepare a working plan with real objectives which pays attention to the SME of these sectors so that they can recover their competitiveness in as short a timeframe as possible.**

Or. en

**Amendment 199  
Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, Martina Dlabajová**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 9 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**9 a. Insists on the need for extreme vigilance and control measures to prevent covert protectionist measures that could increase the effect of these inequalities. Calls for special vigilance with regard to standards that prevent SMEs from accessing the market in certain Member States.**

Or. en

**Amendment 200  
Patrizia Toia**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 9 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**9 a. points out that the economic crisis**

*has affected SMEs in the tourism, culture, recreation, trade fairs and events sectors particularly hard;*

Or. en

#### **Amendment 201**

**Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 10**

###### *Motion for a resolution*

10. Urges Member States to implement the Directive on combating late payment in commercial transactions; recalls that liquidity must be swiftly provided to SMEs, while measures for SME re-capitalisation should also be reinforced;

###### *Amendment*

10. Urges Member States to implement the Directive on combating late payment in commercial transactions; recalls that liquidity must be swiftly provided to SMEs, while measures for SME re-capitalisation should also be reinforced; ***urges the Commission to swiftly equip the Late Payment Directive<sup>1a</sup> with strong monitoring and enforcement tools and to take appropriate binding measures to reinforce the current framework, so as to ensure that prompt payments are the norm across the Single Market;***

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***<sup>1a</sup> Directive 2011/7/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 February 2011 on combating late payment in commercial transactions***

Or. en

#### **Amendment 202**

**Paolo Borchia**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 10**

###### *Motion for a resolution*

10. Urges Member States to implement

###### *Amendment*

10. Urges Member States to implement

the Directive on combating late payment in commercial transactions; recalls that liquidity must be swiftly provided to SMEs, while measures for SME re-capitalisation should also be reinforced;

the Directive on combating late payment in commercial transactions ***by promoting initiatives at the EU level to ensure compliance with payment terms also within B2B relations***; recalls that liquidity must be swiftly provided to SMEs, while measures for SME re-capitalisation should also be reinforced; ***recalls that in 2018 only 40% of companies were paid on time***;

Or. en

### **Amendment 203**

**Martina Dlabajová, Christophe Grudler, Iskra Mihaylova, Ivars Ijabs, Claudia Gamon, Bart Groothuis, Nicola Danti, Mauri Pekkarinen, Susana Solís Pérez, Dragoş Pîslaru, Klemen Grošelj, Fredrick Federley, Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, Martin Hojsík, Valérie Hayer, Nicola Beer**

#### **Motion for a resolution Paragraph 10**

##### *Motion for a resolution*

10. Urges Member States to implement the Directive on combating late payment in commercial transactions; recalls that liquidity must be swiftly provided to SMEs, while measures for SME re-capitalisation should also be reinforced;

##### *Amendment*

10. Urges Member States to implement the Directive on combating late payment in commercial transactions ***and calls on the Commission to assess the need for its revision***; recalls that liquidity must be swiftly provided to SMEs, while measures for SME re-capitalisation should also be reinforced;

Or. en

### **Amendment 204** **Patrizia Toia**

#### **Motion for a resolution Paragraph 10**

##### *Motion for a resolution*

10. Urges Member States to implement the Directive on combating late payment in commercial transactions; recalls that liquidity must be swiftly provided to

##### *Amendment*

10. Urges Member States to implement the Directive on combating late payment in commercial transactions, ***in particular with regard to public administrations***; recalls

SMEs, while measures for SME re-capitalisation should also be reinforced;

that liquidity must be swiftly provided to SMEs, while measures for SME re-capitalisation should also be reinforced;

Or. en

**Amendment 205**  
**Margarita de la Pisa Carrión**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 10**

*Motion for a resolution*

10. Urges Member States to implement the Directive on combating late payment in commercial transactions; recalls that liquidity must be swiftly provided to SMEs, while measures for SME re-capitalisation should also be reinforced;

*Amendment*

10. Urges Member States *who did not made yet* to implement the Directive on combating late payment in commercial transactions; recalls that liquidity must be swiftly provided to SMEs, while measures for SME re-capitalisation should also be reinforced;

Or. en

**Amendment 206**  
**Margarita de la Pisa Carrión**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 11**

*Motion for a resolution*

**11. Welcomes the relaxation of State aid restrictions, but regrets its uneven implementation across the Union; calls on the Commission and the Council to restore a competitive level playing field among Member States;**

*Amendment*

*deleted*

Or. en

**Amendment 207**  
**Josianne Cutajar, Łukasz Kohut, Carlos Zorrinho, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Adriana Maldonado López, Eva Kaili, Robert Hajšel, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Nicolás**

**González Casares, Alicia Homs Ginel**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 11**

*Motion for a resolution*

11. Welcomes the relaxation of State aid restrictions, but regrets its uneven implementation across the Union; calls on the Commission and the Council to restore a competitive level playing field among Member States;

*Amendment*

11. Welcomes the relaxation of State aid restrictions, but regrets its uneven implementation across the Union; calls on the Commission and the Council to restore a competitive level playing field among Member States; ***calls for a more flexible approach on State aid rules when they aim at overcoming the geographical disadvantage affecting those SMEs located in the most peripheral territories of the European Union, such as islands, outermost regions as well as mountainous and sparsely populated areas;***

Or. en

**Amendment 208**

**Robert Roos**

on behalf of the ECR Group

**Izabela-Helena Kloc**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 11**

*Motion for a resolution*

11. Welcomes the relaxation of State aid restrictions, but regrets its uneven implementation across the Union; ***calls on the Commission and the Council to restore a competitive level playing field among Member States;***

*Amendment*

11. Welcomes the relaxation of State aid restrictions, but regrets its uneven implementation across the Union;

Or. en

**Amendment 209**

**Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

## Motion for a resolution

### Paragraph 11

#### *Motion for a resolution*

11. Welcomes the relaxation of State aid restrictions, but regrets its uneven implementation across the Union; calls on the Commission and the Council to restore a competitive level playing field among Member States;

#### *Amendment*

11. Welcomes the **temporary** relaxation of State aid restrictions, but regrets its uneven implementation across the Union; calls on the Commission and the Council to restore a competitive level playing field among Member States;

Or. en

## Amendment 210

**Jens Gieseke**

on behalf of the PPE Group

**Henna Virkkunen, Ivan Štefanec, Pilar del Castillo Vera, Eva Maydell, Pernille Weiss, Hildegard Bentele, Angelika Winzig, Maria da Graça Carvalho, Angelika Niebler, Tom Berendsen, Vasile Blaga, Sven Schulze, Ioan-Rareș Bogdan, Roberta Metsola**

## Motion for a resolution

### Paragraph 11

#### *Motion for a resolution*

11. Welcomes the relaxation of State aid restrictions, but regrets its uneven implementation across the Union; calls on the Commission and the Council to **restore** a competitive level playing field among Member States;

#### *Amendment*

11. Welcomes the relaxation of State aid restrictions, but regrets its uneven implementation across the Union; calls on the Commission and the Council to **guarantee** a competitive level playing field among Member States;

Or. en

## Amendment 211

**Jens Gieseke**

on behalf of the PPE Group

**Ivan Štefanec, Pilar del Castillo Vera, Eva Maydell, Pernille Weiss, Hildegard Bentele, Angelika Winzig, Maria da Graça Carvalho, Angelika Niebler, Tom Berendsen, Vasile Blaga, Sven Schulze, Ioan-Rareș Bogdan, Massimiliano Salini, Antonio Tajani, Roberta Metsola**

## Motion for a resolution

### Paragraph 11 a (new)

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***11 a. Notes that SMEs in the transport and tourism sectors are being most affected by the COVID-19 outbreak; underlines the need to relieve these sectors from administrative burdens and cost-driving regulation;***

Or. en

**Amendment 212**

**Jens Gieseke**

on behalf of the PPE Group

**Henna Virkkunen, Ivan Štefanec, Pilar del Castillo Vera, Eva Maydell, Pernille Weiss, Hildegard Bentele, Angelika Winzig, Maria da Graça Carvalho, Angelika Niebler, Tom Berendsen, Vasile Blaga, Sven Schulze, Ioan-Rareș Bogdan, Massimiliano Salini, Antonio Tajani, Roberta Metsola**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 11 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***11 b. Recalls the importance to improve the access of SMEs in the culture and creative sector to digital technologies and support programmes as the COVID-19 crisis has shown their crucial role for our economy and social lives;***

Or. en

**Amendment 213**

**Jens Gieseke**

on behalf of the PPE Group

**Henna Virkkunen, Ivan Štefanec, Pilar del Castillo Vera, Eva Maydell, Pernille Weiss, Hildegard Bentele, Angelika Winzig, Maria da Graça Carvalho, Angelika Niebler, Tom Berendsen, Vasile Blaga, Sven Schulze, Ioan-Rareș Bogdan, Massimiliano Salini, Antonio Tajani**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 11 c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***11 c. Calls on the Commission to analyse carefully the economic impacts of the COVID-19 crisis on SMEs, calls on the Commission to conduct new impact assessments when proposing legislation, especially in the area of the Green Deal, taking into account SME's concerns resulting from the COVID 19 crisis;***

Or. en

**Amendment 214**  
**Pietro Fiocchi**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 12**

*Motion for a resolution*

12. Regrets that no more than 600 000 SMEs are able to export outside the EU; welcomes the new portal created by the Commission to support SMEs through information on administrative procedures and international trade regulations; urges the Commission to ensure multilingual access to this tool;

*Amendment*

12. Regrets that no more than 600 000 SMEs are able to export outside the EU; welcomes the new portal created by the Commission to support SMEs through information on administrative procedures and international trade regulations; urges the Commission to ensure multilingual access to this tool; ***believes that the development of accompanying measures and instruments is essential to helping Micro and SMEs to internationalise; call on the Commission to foresee instruments like its previous "Mission for Growth";***

Or. en

**Amendment 215**  
**Martina Dlabajová, Christophe Grudler, Iskra Mihaylova, Ivars Ijabs, Claudia Gamon, Bart Groothuis, Nicola Danti, Mauri Pekkarinen, Susana Solís Pérez, Dragoş Pîslaru, Klemen Grošelj, Fredrick Federley, Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, Martin Hojsík, Valérie Hayer, Nicola Beer**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 12**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*



12. Regrets that no more than 600 000 SMEs are **able to export** outside the EU; welcomes the new portal created by the Commission to support SMEs through information on administrative procedures and international trade regulations; urges the Commission to ensure multilingual access to this tool;

12. Regrets that no more than 600 000 SMEs are **currently exporting** outside the EU; welcomes the new portal created by the Commission to support SMEs through information on administrative procedures and international trade regulations; urges the Commission to ensure multilingual access to this tool; ***calls for additional instruments to be developed, in order to further support the internationalisation of micro enterprises and SMEs.***

Or. en

### **Amendment 216**

**Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

#### **Motion for a resolution**

#### **Paragraph 13**

*Motion for a resolution*

13. Calls for special support for social SMEs, as already called for in the European Parliament's position on the COSME programme;

*Amendment*

13. Calls for special support for social SMEs, ***including social economy enterprises***, as already called for in the European Parliament's position on the COSME programme; ***recognises that they have been particularly affected by the COVID-19 crisis, as their legal status frequently does not allow for disposing of financial reserves; points to the societal added value that social economy enterprises provide to their local communities as well as the promotion of social innovation;***

Or. en

### **Amendment 217**

**Josianne Cutajar, Łukasz Kohut, Carlos Zorrinho, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Adriana Maldonado López, Eva Kaili, Robert Hajšel, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Nicolás González Casares, Alicia Homs Ginel**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

#### **Paragraph 13**

*Motion for a resolution*

13. Calls for special support for social SMEs, as already called for in the European Parliament's position on the COSME programme;

*Amendment*

13. Calls for special support for social SMEs, ***including cooperatives***, as already called for in the European Parliament's position on the COSME programme, ***since they create public value for the local communities where they are rooted; points out that social innovation should be further encouraged;***

Or. en

**Amendment 218**

**Margarita de la Pisa Carrión**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 13**

*Motion for a resolution*

13. Calls for special support ***for social SMEs***, as already called for in the European Parliament's position on the COSME programme;

*Amendment*

13. Calls for special support ***SMEs*** as already called for in the European Parliament's position on the COSME programme;

Or. en

**Amendment 219**

**Izaskun Bilbao Barandica**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 13 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

***13 a. Highlights the role that the social economy has in fixing employment to the territory, in promoting entrepreneurship and in the quality of labour relations. Encourages to promote social entrepreneurship and support for initiatives that boost the participation of workers in the capital and the management of SMEs.***

*Amendment*

## Amendment 220

**Jens Gieseke**

on behalf of the PPE Group

**Henna Virkkunen, Ivan Štefanec, Pilar del Castillo Vera, Eva Maydell, Pernille Weiss, Hildegard Bentele, Angelika Winzig, Maria da Graça Carvalho, Angelika Niebler, Tom Berendsen, Vasile Blaga, Sven Schulze, Ioan-Rareş Bogdan, Massimiliano Salini, Antonio Tajani, Roberta Metsola**

### Motion for a resolution

#### Paragraph 14

##### *Motion for a resolution*

14. Regrets that the Recovery Plan dedicated little focus to SMEs, and calls for measures to ensure access for SMEs; reminds the Council that the post-COVID-19 survival of SMEs will depend on swift decision-making;

##### *Amendment*

14. ***Highlights that Europe's economy is very intertwined as there are strong interrelationships between companies of different sizes and Member States and consequently a European approach ensuring that the entire chain of productivity can benefit, from large production sites to SMEs, will be more successful in increasing Europe's global competitiveness;*** regrets that the Recovery Plan dedicated little focus to SMEs, and calls for measures to ensure access for SMEs; reminds the Council that the post-COVID-19 survival of SMEs will depend on swift decision-making;

Or. en

## Amendment 221

**Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

### Motion for a resolution

#### Paragraph 14

##### *Motion for a resolution*

14. ***Regrets that*** the Recovery Plan ***dedicated little focus to SMEs,*** and calls for measures to ensure access for SMEs; ***reminds the Council that the post-COVID-***

##### *Amendment*

14. ***Highlights the need for a swift adoption of the instruments under*** the Recovery Plan and calls for measures to ensure ***rapid access to recovery***

*19 survival of SMEs will depend on swift decision-making;*

*funding for SMEs; regrets the decision of the European Council to cancel the proposed Solvency Support Instrument, which would provide liquidity particularly to SMEs in Member States with limited budgetary means and support for SMEs, thereby minimising disparities within the internal market;*

Or. en

#### **Amendment 222**

**Ignazio Corrao, Eleonora Evi**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

#### **Paragraph 14**

##### *Motion for a resolution*

14. Regrets that the Recovery Plan dedicated little focus to SMEs, **and calls for measures to ensure access for SMEs**; reminds the Council that the post-COVID-19 survival of SMEs will depend on swift decision-making;

##### *Amendment*

14. Regrets that the Recovery Plan dedicated little focus to SMEs **as well as cut dedicated programmes, such as the Solvency Support Instrument**; reminds the Council that the post-COVID-19 survival of SMEs will depend on swift decision-making **and the ability to provide SMEs with sufficient funding and proper tools to face their liquidity crisis and the broader ecological and digital transitions**;

Or. en

#### **Amendment 223**

**Josianne Cutajar, Łukasz Kohut, Carlos Zorrinho, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Adriana Maldonado López, Eva Kaili, Robert Hajšel, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Nicolás González Casares, Alicia Homs Ginel**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

#### **Paragraph 14**

##### *Motion for a resolution*

14. Regrets that the Recovery Plan dedicated little focus to SMEs, **and calls for measures to ensure access for SMEs**; reminds the Council that the post-COVID-

##### *Amendment*

14. Regrets that the Recovery Plan dedicated little focus to SMEs **and does not promote gender-sensitive policies and measures in this field**; reminds the Council

19 survival of SMEs will depend on swift decision-making;

*that there is an immediate need to restore the liquidity of SMEs to ensure their basic functioning and warns that the post-COVID-19 survival of SMEs will depend on swift decision-making and adequate funding;*

Or. en

#### **Amendment 224**

**Robert Roos**

on behalf of the ECR Group

**Elżbieta Kruk, Evžen Tošenovský**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 14**

###### *Motion for a resolution*

14. Regrets that the Recovery Plan dedicated little focus to SMEs, and calls for measures to ensure access for SMEs; reminds the Council that the post-COVID-19 survival of SMEs will depend on swift decision-making;

###### *Amendment*

14. Regrets that the Recovery Plan dedicated little focus to SMEs, and calls for measures to ensure access for SMEs; reminds the Council that the post-COVID-19 survival of SMEs will depend on swift decision-making *and the quick availability of liquidity;*

Or. en

#### **Amendment 225**

**Patrizia Toia**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 14 a (new)**

###### *Motion for a resolution*

###### *Amendment*

*14 a. recalls the central role that many SMEs have in industrial ecosystems and European strategic value chains;*

*calls on the Commission and on Member States to ensure SMEs full participation to any industrial policy instrument;*

Or. en

**Amendment 226**

**Sandra Pereira, Sira Rego, Giorgos Georgiou, Cornelia Ernst, Marisa Matias, Manuel Bompard, Marc Botenga**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 14 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**14a. Advocates establishing, redirecting and/or strengthening the mission of public bodies, whether at national or EU level, whose purpose it is exclusively to address SME concerns;**

Or. pt

**Amendment 227**

**Sandra Pereira, Sira Rego, Giorgos Georgiou, Cornelia Ernst, Marisa Matias, Manuel Bompard, Marc Botenga**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 14 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**14b. Sees the need to strengthen policies and practices which effectively facilitate EU funding for SMEs, particularly micro- and small businesses, given their real economic clout and their structural weaknesses, taking into consideration, whenever possible, existing sectoral and national specificities;**

Or. pt

**Amendment 228**

**Sandra Pereira, Sira Rego, Giorgos Georgiou, Cornelia Ernst, Marisa Matias, Manuel Bompard, Marc Botenga**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 14 c (new)**

**14c. Considers that EU strategy for SMEs should, at all times, take full account of their national specificities, thereby ensuring due regard for the broad national autonomy of Member States in a general Community framework;**

Or. pt

**Amendment 229**

**Martina Dlabajová, Christophe Grudler, Iskra Mihaylova, Ivars Ijabs, Claudia Gamon, Nicola Danti, Susana Solís Pérez, Dragoş Pişlaru, Klemen Grošelj, Fredrick Federley, Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, Martin Hojsík, Valérie Hayer**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 15**

15. Urges Member States to acknowledge as top political priorities the protection of employment and SMEs' production-capacity; urges **them** to put forward concrete measures to support SMEs at risk of insolvency;

15. Urges Member States to acknowledge as top political priorities the protection of employment and SMEs' production-capacity; **welcomes the SURE initiative aiming at covering the cost of national short-time work schemes;** urges **Member States** to put forward concrete measures to support SMEs at risk of insolvency; **welcomes the Solvency Support Instrument presented by the Commission as part of the Next Generation EU package and calls for this instrument to operate in a practical and efficient way to be operational as soon as possible, complementing actions taken by Member States; Calls on the Commission to actively support Member States in transposing the Directive on preventive restructuring to ensure a real second chance to SMEs in difficulty;**

Or. en

**Amendment 230  
Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 15**

*Motion for a resolution*

15. Urges Member States to acknowledge as top political priorities the protection of employment and SMEs' ***production-capacity***; urges them to put forward concrete measures to support SMEs at risk of insolvency;

*Amendment*

15. Urges Member States to acknowledge as top political priorities the protection of employment and SMEs' ***and start-ups survival***; urges them to put forward concrete measures to support SMEs ***and start-ups*** at risk of insolvency ***in particular if the cancellation of the Solvency Support Instrument suggested by the European Council***;

Or. en

**Amendment 231**

**Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 16**

*Motion for a resolution*

16. Regrets that numerous SMEs are unable to access EU funding because of ***the*** excessive complexity of the relevant procedures and eligibility criteria; calls on the Commission to reduce such barriers;

*Amendment*

16. Regrets that numerous SMEs are unable to access EU funding because of ***lacking awareness, but also slowness as well as*** excessive complexity of the relevant procedures and eligibility criteria; calls on the Commission to reduce such barriers ***and improve their tailoring towards SME***; ***reiterates its position under the MFF Single Market Programme to double the allocation for the budget line on COSME***; ***urges to better customise EU funding to attract more participation from non-digital, high-tech and innovative SMEs***;

Or. en

**Amendment 232**



**Josianne Cutajar, Łukasz Kohut, Carlos Zorrinho, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Adriana Maldonado López, Eva Kaili, Robert Hajšel, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Nicolás González Casares, Alicia Homs Ginel**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 16**

*Motion for a resolution*

16. Regrets that numerous SMEs are unable to access EU funding because of the excessive complexity of the relevant procedures and eligibility criteria; calls on the Commission to reduce such barriers;

*Amendment*

16. Regrets that numerous SMEs, ***including micro-entreprises and startups,*** are unable to access EU funding because of the excessive complexity of the relevant procedures and eligibility criteria; calls on the Commission to reduce such barriers ***and to further support tailored incentives for SMEs, including micro-entreprises;***

Or. en

**Amendment 233**

**Martina Dlabajová, Christophe Grudler, Iskra Mihaylova, Ivars Ijabs, Claudia Gamon, Bart Groothuis, Nicola Danti, Mauri Pekkarinen, Susana Solís Pérez, Dragoş Pîslaru, Klemen Grošelj, Fredrick Federley, Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, Martin Hojsík, Valérie Hayer, Nicola Beer**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 16**

*Motion for a resolution*

16. Regrets that numerous SMEs are unable to access EU funding because of the excessive complexity of the relevant procedures and eligibility criteria; calls on the Commission to reduce such barriers;

*Amendment*

16. Regrets that numerous ***micro enterprises and*** SMEs are unable to access EU funding because of the excessive complexity of the relevant procedures and eligibility criteria; calls on the Commission to reduce such barriers, ***in particular by simplifying procedures and ensure online access to information;***

Or. en

**Amendment 234**  
**Pietro Fiocchi**

**Motion for a resolution**

## Paragraph 16

### *Motion for a resolution*

16. Regrets that numerous SMEs are unable to access EU funding because of the excessive complexity of the relevant procedures and eligibility criteria; calls on the Commission to reduce such barriers;

### *Amendment*

16. Regrets that numerous **Micro and** SMEs are unable to access EU funding because of the excessive complexity of the relevant procedures and eligibility criteria; calls on the Commission to reduce such barriers **and to provide instruments on the basis of the size of the enterprises;**

Or. en

## Amendment 235

Paolo Borchia

### Motion for a resolution

#### Paragraph 16

### *Motion for a resolution*

16. Regrets that numerous SMEs are unable to access EU funding because of the excessive complexity of the relevant procedures and eligibility criteria; calls on the Commission to reduce such barriers;

### *Amendment*

16. Regrets that numerous SMEs are unable to access EU funding because of the excessive complexity of the relevant procedures and eligibility criteria; calls on the Commission to reduce such barriers **and to provide instruments on the basis of the size of the enterprises;**

Or. en

## Amendment 236

Margarita de la Pisa Carrión

### Motion for a resolution

#### Paragraph 16

### *Motion for a resolution*

16. Regrets that numerous SMEs are unable to access EU funding because of the excessive complexity of the relevant procedures and eligibility criteria; calls on the Commission to **reduce** such barriers;

### *Amendment*

16. Regrets that numerous SMEs are unable to access EU funding because of the excessive complexity of the relevant procedures and eligibility criteria; calls on the Commission to **remove** such barriers;

**Amendment 237**

**Sandra Pereira, Sira Rego, Giorgos Georgiou, Cornelia Ernst, Marisa Matias, Manuel Bompard, Marc Botenga**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 16 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***16a. Advocates designing and implementing financial support policies suited to the needs of SMEs, whether developed within the financial system or at the various levels of public administration at national or EU level; highlights the importance of public banking to support SMEs and to promote development;***

Or. pt

**Amendment 238**

**Josianne Cutajar, Łukasz Kohut, Carlos Zorrinho, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Adriana Maldonado López, Eva Kaili, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Nicolás González Casares, Alicia Homs Ginel**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 16 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***16 a. Recalls that, in order to help startups thrive, it is crucial to ensure “patient capital” enabling them to grow even when the business they are developing is not immediately marketable; welcomes in this regard the role of the European Innovation Council and, in particular the dedicated budget for SMEs in Horizon Europe;***

Or. en

**Amendment 239**  
**Ignazio Corrao, Eleonora Evi**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 16 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**16 a. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to use positive public relations incentives, such as environmental awards promoting environmentally friendly behaviours, in doing so raising awareness among business and communities while also helping SMEs to gain recognition for their environmental efforts and performances;**

Or. en

**Amendment 240**  
**Robert Roos**  
on behalf of the ECR Group  
**Elżbieta Kruk, Evžen Tošenovský, Izabela-Helena Kloc**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 16 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**16 a. Calls on the Commission, when designing new EU programmes, to explicitly consider whether the funding can reasonably be used by SMEs;**

Or. en

**Amendment 241**  
**Paolo Borchia**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 17**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

17. Urges Member States to guarantee equitable access to bank lending for SMEs; notes the importance of traditional banking models, including small regional banks, savings cooperatives and public bodies;

17. Urges Member States to guarantee equitable access to bank lending for SMEs; notes the importance of traditional banking models, including small regional banks, savings cooperatives and public bodies; ***recognises that bank lending is traditionally the main source of external financing for SMEs in the Union, as bank financing accounts for more than three-quarters of SME financing, compared to less than half in the US, which makes SMEs particularly vulnerable to a contraction in bank lending; notes that crises contribute to the fragmentation of bank financing and credit conditions; regrets the gap between credit conditions for SMEs located in different euro area countries; calls on the Member States to work together with the financial sector as regards their obligation to ensure full and fair access to bank loans for SMEs; stresses the important and well-developed role of banks with specific local and regional knowledge in granting loans to SMEs, given their long-term relationships with SMEs; points out that where well-established local banks exist they are effective in granting loans to SMEs and avoiding losses; stresses, therefore, the importance of developing local banks;***

Or. en

#### **Amendment 242**

**Jens Gieseke**

on behalf of the PPE Group

**Henna Virkkunen, Ivan Štefanec, Pilar del Castillo Vera, Eva Maydell, Pernille Weiss, Hildegard Bentele, Angelika Winzig, Maria da Graça Carvalho, Angelika Niebler, Tom Berendsen, Vasile Blaga, Sven Schulze, Ioan-Rareş Bogdan, Massimiliano Salini, Antonio Tajani, Roberta Metsola**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 17**

*Motion for a resolution*

17. Urges Member States to guarantee equitable access to ***bank lending*** for

*Amendment*

17. Urges Member States to guarantee equitable access to ***finance*** for SMEs;

SMEs; notes the importance of traditional banking models, including small regional banks, savings cooperatives and public bodies;

*reminds that access to finance is a key enabler of growth and innovations; notes the importance of traditional banking models, including small regional banks, savings cooperatives and public bodies; and calls for further support of innovative business models; points out that SMEs are indirectly affected by reporting obligations of financial intermediaries and larger enterprises; urges the Member States and the Commission to bring forward new initiatives to address the problem of late payments, which continue to create significant liquidity challenges for SMEs.*

Or. en

#### **Amendment 243**

**Josianne Cutajar, Łukasz Kohut, Carlos Zorrinho, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Adriana Maldonado López, Eva Kaili, Robert Hajšel, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Nicolás González Casares, Alicia Homs Ginel**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 17**

###### *Motion for a resolution*

17. Urges Member States to guarantee equitable access to bank lending for SMEs; notes the importance of traditional banking models, including small regional banks, savings cooperatives and public bodies;

###### *Amendment*

17. Urges Member States to guarantee equitable access to bank lending for SMEs; notes the importance of traditional banking models, including small regional banks, savings cooperatives and public bodies; *is of the opinion that the initiatives of the Capital Markets Union can also help SMEs grow through alternative ways of accessing finance, which are not as much developed in the European Union as elsewhere;*

Or. en

#### **Amendment 244**

**Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 17**

*Motion for a resolution*

17. Urges Member States to guarantee *equitable* access to bank lending for SMEs; notes the importance of traditional banking models, including small regional banks, savings cooperatives and public bodies;

*Amendment*

17. Urges Member States to guarantee *non-discriminatory* access to bank lending for SMEs, *in particular those focusing on intangible assets*; notes the importance of traditional banking models, including small regional banks, savings cooperatives and public bodies;

Or. en

**Amendment 245**

**Martina Dlabajová, Christophe Grudler, Iskra Mihaylova, Ivars Ijabs, Claudia Gamon, Bart Groothuis, Mauri Pekkarinen, Susana Solís Pérez, Dragoş Pîslaru, Klemen Grošelj, Fredrick Federley, Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, Martin Hojsík, Valérie Hayer, Nicola Beer**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 17**

*Motion for a resolution*

17. Urges Member States to guarantee equitable access to bank lending for SMEs; notes the importance of traditional banking models, including small regional banks, *savings* cooperatives and public bodies;

*Amendment*

17. Urges Member States to guarantee equitable access to bank lending for SMEs; notes the importance of traditional banking models, including small regional banks, cooperatives and public bodies;

Or. en

**Amendment 246**

**Paolo Borchia**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 17 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*17 a. stresses that financing through capital markets alone will not be sufficient to provide sufficient financing and appropriate financing solutions for*

*SMEs and believes that in order to best meet the real financing needs of SMEs and the real economy and in order to make long-term sustainable development possible, the financial services sector must be stable and offer a wide range of tailor-made financing options in a cost-effective manner; stresses in this regard the importance of traditional banking models, including small regional banks, savings cooperatives and public institutions; notes in this regard the need to ensure improved access to credit also for micro-enterprises and self-employed entrepreneurs; invites the EIB to work more closely with its financial intermediaries in the Member States to disseminate relevant information to SMEs in order to improve access to finance; stresses the importance of the EIB's role in fostering partnerships and strengthening support instruments for financing the activities of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises and innovative start-ups; also invites the EIB to cooperate more closely with regional public institutions in order to optimise financing opportunities for SMEs;*

Or. en

**Amendment 247**

**Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 17 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**17 a. Calls for the swift adoption and implementation of the European Green Deal initiatives, particularly those which offer the greatest employment and competitiveness opportunities to SMEs; such as the implementation of the Circular Economy Action Plan, which maximises benefits for sustainable, local agri-food, textile and construction SMEs,**



*but also provides major business and innovation opportunities for SMEs in response to enhanced eco-design standards or increased durability, reusability, reparability of products, including ‘right to repair’;*

Or. en

**Amendment 248**

**Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 17 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*17 b. Recalls that SMEs contribute to 70%<sup>1a</sup> of value added and employ more than 90%<sup>1b</sup> of workers in the construction sector, urges hence the swift launch and sufficient funding of the Renovation Wave; calls on the Commission to bring forward a 2030 Pan-European Solar Rooftop Programme as part of the Renovation Wave, which would create an increased number of local jobs, in particular for SMEs in the design, construction, operation and maintenance of small-scale renewable energy plants;*

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*1a*

*[https://ec.europa.eu/energy/topics/energy-efficiency/energy-efficient-buildings/energy-performance-buildings-directive\\_en#facts-and-figures](https://ec.europa.eu/energy/topics/energy-efficiency/energy-efficient-buildings/energy-performance-buildings-directive_en#facts-and-figures)*

*1b*

*[https://ec.europa.eu/growth/sectors/construction\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/growth/sectors/construction_en)*

Or. en

**Amendment 249**

**Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 17 c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**17 c. Calls for using front-running environmentally sustainable SMEs as the standard in their product or service group; calls for stronger promotion of successful examples of environmentally sustainable and eco-businesses<sup>1a</sup> at European and national level to showcase the economic opportunities associated with sustainable business practices, while providing valuable input for effective policy formulation;**

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*1a*

**<https://www.eea.europa.eu/help/glossary/ea-glossary/eco-industry>**

Or. en

**Amendment 250**

**Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 17 d (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**17 d. Emphasises the need to increase awareness among SME owners and managers, SME associations and support organisations about financing possibilities for more performant technologies, about contracting services (ex. consultancy, coaching and training) related to eco-design and efficient resource usage and management, and about green entrepreneurship and green technologies, products and services; calls on the Member States and the Commission to enhance the provision of SME services in**

*these areas, in particular at the regional and local level, and calls for the increased dedication of European Structural Funds and the JTF to these objectives;*

Or. en

**Amendment 251**

**Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 17 e (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*17 e. Asks the Commission to evaluate the potential creation of ‘Green Hubs’, as an equivalent to the Digital Hubs, providing concerted information, advice, assistance and training as regards sustainable business transformation adapted to the needs of different types of SMEs, environmentally sustainable entrepreneurship and business models, including the shortening and greening of value chains, eco-innovation, access to funding and markets for environmentally sustainable SMEs as well as the exchange of best practices, linking of various actors and potential business partners, including from a circular economy perspective; emphasises that such hubs would need to be closely linked with existing networks and structures, such as the EEN or European Resource Efficiency Knowledge Centre, in order to avoid any overlaps;*

Or. en

**Amendment 252**

**Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 17 f (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**17 f. Welcomes the Commission's proposal for Sustainability Advisors; calls for the swift adoption of such proposal, based on an open transparent selection process following an open call for interest as well as sketching out his/her portfolio with clear roadmap, timeline, objectives and milestones;**

Or. en

**Amendment 253**

**Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 17 g (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**17 g. Calls on the Commission to develop and promote an SME toolbox for sustainable company policies, including corporate social and environmental responsibility, sustainable accounting and reporting, and tools for implementing low-waste and circular production models, sustainable supply chains and energy audits;**

Or. en

**Amendment 254**

**Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 17 h (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**17 h. Points out that, besides the horizontal dimension of knowledge**

*sharing (i.e. between SMEs), the horizontal coordination between EU institutions, funds and financing instruments plays a crucial role for overcoming the expectation-implementation gap; emphasises the need to proactively approach SME networks and organisations at local, regional and national levels, in order to provide timely information and guidance for making use of available and planned EU funding possibilities; reminds the Commission to use all means on communication and knowledge transmission available (promotional mailings, social media, webinars, etc.) as well as competitions for students and young entrepreneurs;*

Or. en

#### **Amendment 255**

**Paolo Borchia**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

#### **Paragraph 18**

##### *Motion for a resolution*

18. Calls for increasing SMEs' share of government contracts obtained from public procurement by **safeguarding** SMEs' access **and** combating tendering criteria that set demands or qualifications beyond the fundamental elements of the service or goods purchased;

##### *Amendment*

18. Calls for increasing SMEs' share, **in particular micro-enterprises' share**, of government contracts obtained from public procurement by **removing uneven access criteria as well as discriminatory practices that prevent Micro and SMEs' access, and by** combating tendering criteria that set demands or qualifications beyond the fundamental elements of the service or goods purchased; **calls for valuing "Km 0 contracts" by providing for premium criteria for local businesses, by borrowing in this regard from the European legislation on agriculture and short supply chain;**

Or. en

## Amendment 256

Jens Gieseke

on behalf of the PPE Group

Henna Virkkunen, Ivan Štefanec, Pilar del Castillo Vera, Eva Maydell, Pernille Weiss, Hildegard Bentele, Angelika Winzig, Maria da Graça Carvalho, Angelika Niebler, Tom Berendsen, Vasile Blaga, Sven Schulze, Ioan-Rareş Bogdan, Massimiliano Salini, Antonio Tajani, Roberta Metsola

### Motion for a resolution

#### Paragraph 18

##### *Motion for a resolution*

18. Calls for increasing SMEs' share of government contracts obtained from public procurement by safeguarding SMEs' access and combating tendering criteria that set demands or qualifications beyond the fundamental elements of the service or goods purchased;

##### *Amendment*

18. Calls for increasing SMEs' share of government contracts obtained from public procurement by safeguarding SMEs' access and combating tendering criteria that set demands or qualifications beyond the fundamental elements of the service or goods purchased; ***calls to reserve a share of public procurement for SMEs, where possible, in order to increase SME's overall share in public procurement; calls for the possibility for public policy makers to use local SMEs to a certain extent;***

Or. en

## Amendment 257

Henrike Hahn

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

### Motion for a resolution

#### Paragraph 18

##### *Motion for a resolution*

18. ***Calls for increasing*** SMEs' share of government contracts obtained from public procurement ***by safeguarding SMEs' access and combating tendering criteria that set demands or qualifications beyond the fundamental elements of the service or goods purchased;***

##### *Amendment*

18. ***Considers that national and European public administration should lead by example and increase*** SMEs' share ***in*** contracts obtained from public procurement; ***stresses that green and circular public procurement is a strategic tool to boost sustainable production and consumption patterns while supporting local, innovative SMEs; calls for mandatory minimum targets to make systematic use of environmental criteria in***

**Amendment 258**

**Josianne Cutajar, Łukasz Kohut, Carlos Zorrinho, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Adriana Maldonado López, Eva Kaili, Robert Hajšel, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Nicolás González Casares, Alicia Homs Ginel**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 18**

*Motion for a resolution*

18. Calls for increasing SMEs' share of government contracts obtained from public procurement by safeguarding SMEs' access and combating tendering criteria that set demands or qualifications beyond the fundamental elements of the service or goods purchased;

*Amendment*

18. Calls for increasing SMEs' share of government contracts obtained from public procurement by safeguarding SMEs' access, ***including through the division of larger contracts into smaller lots***, and combating tendering criteria that set demands or qualifications beyond the fundamental elements of the service or goods purchased;

**Amendment 259**

**Martina Dlabajová, Iskra Mihaylova, Ivars Ijabs, Claudia Gamon, Bart Groothuis, Nicola Danti, Mauri Pekkarinen, Susana Solís Pérez, Dragoș Pișlaru, Klemen Grošelj, Fredrick Federley, Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, Martin Hojsík, Valérie Hayer, Nicola Beer**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 18**

*Motion for a resolution*

18. Calls for increasing SMEs' ***share of government contracts obtained from*** public procurement by safeguarding SMEs' access ***and combating*** tendering criteria that set demands or qualifications beyond the fundamental elements of the service or goods purchased;

*Amendment*

18. Calls for increasing SMEs' ***opportunities in participating in*** public procurement by safeguarding SMEs' access ***to information, procedure simplification and avoiding*** tendering criteria that set demands or qualifications beyond the fundamental elements of the service or goods purchased;

**Amendment 260**

**Pietro Fiocchi**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 18**

*Motion for a resolution*

18. Calls for increasing SMEs' share of government contracts obtained from public procurement by safeguarding SMEs' access and combating tendering criteria that set demands or qualifications beyond the fundamental elements of the service or goods purchased;

*Amendment*

18. Calls for increasing SMEs' share, ***in particularly Micro***, of government contracts obtained from public procurement by safeguarding SMEs' access and combating tendering criteria that set demands or qualifications beyond the fundamental elements of the service or goods purchased;

Or. en

**Amendment 261**

**Ignazio Corrao, Eleonora Evi**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 18 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***18 a. Highlight the central role of public procurement in influencing the environmental behaviours of the industry, including SMEs by exerting supply chain pressure towards high environmental standards; calls therefore on the Member States to fully exploit the green public procurement policies, and to tailor them also for SMEs participation, which can play a significant role in creating demand for green products and services by requiring, for example, that products contain a minimum amount of recycled content or achieve specified levels of energy and resource efficiency;***

Or. en



**Amendment 262**

**Paolo Borchia, Jérôme Rivière, Thierry Mariani, Joëlle Mélin**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 18 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***18 a. Calls on the Commission to promote the continued and constant competitiveness of small and medium-sized enterprises by stimulating innovation and facilitating their participation in innovation procurements and pre-commercial procurements, which are generally accessible only to large industrial groups; calls on the European institutions to introduce a criterion for the applicability of existing and future European legislation to the economic dimension of SMEs with a view to regulatory simplification in relation to their field of action;***

Or. en

**Amendment 263**

**Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 18 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***18 a. Calls on the Commission and Member States to simplify public procurement processes by using the flexibility of the EU's new procurement framework; supports the Commission's call on Member States and contracting authorities to divide large public procurement contracts into smaller lots in view of facilitating SME participation, thereby contributing to the shortening and diversification of supply chains; calls for***

*more guidance to public authorities and to SMEs on existing flexibilities and adaptation of public procurement rules to this end;*

Or. en

**Amendment 264**

**Jens Gieseke**

on behalf of the PPE Group

**Henna Virkkunen, Ivan Štefanec, Pilar del Castillo Vera, Eva Maydell, Pernille Weiss, Hildegard Bentele, Angelika Winzig, Maria da Graça Carvalho, Angelika Niebler, Tom Berendsen, Ioan-Rareş Bogdan, Vasile Blaga, Sven Schulze, Roberta Metsola**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 18 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*18 a. Underlines the importance to work in partnership with national administrators to create a European public procurement market which is based on moderate-sized tenders that allow SMEs to participate in the procurement process and where real and fair competition between market actors can take place; highlights the need to make the European Single Procurement Document (ESPD) more accessible to SMEs;*

Or. en

**Amendment 265**

**Josianne Cutajar, Łukasz Kohut, Carlos Zorrinho, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Adriana Maldonado López, Eva Kaili, Robert Hajšel, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Nicolás González Casares, Alicia Homs Ginel**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 18 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*18 a. Stresses the need to strengthen tools to protect SMEs when third*

*countries adopt illegal measures having a negative impact on EU businesses;*

Or. en

**Amendment 266**

**Sara Skyttedal**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 18 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**18 a. Calls for more efficient public procurement through guidance, recommendations, exchange of knowledge and experience as an objective;**

Or. en

**Amendment 267**

**Jens Gieseke**

on behalf of the PPE Group

**Henna Virkkunen, Ivan Štefanec, Pilar del Castillo Vera, Eva Maydell, Pernille Weiss, Hildegard Bentele, Angelika Winzig, Maria da Graça Carvalho, Angelika Niebler, Tom Berendsen, Vasile Blaga, Sven Schulze, Ioan-Rareș Bogdan, Massimiliano Salini, Antonio Tajani, Roberta Metsola**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 18 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**18 b. Calls on Member States to design their tax systems so that they are better suited to the often capital poor environment within which start up and micro enterprises operate by ensuring that stock options are only taxed at the point of sale and that they can be issued without voting rights;**

Or. en

## Amendment 268

**Jens Gieseke**

on behalf of the PPE Group

**Henna Virkkunen, Ivan Štefanec, Pilar del Castillo Vera, Eva Maydell, Pernille Weiss, Hildegard Bentele, Angelika Winzig, Angelika Niebler, Maria da Graça Carvalho, Tom Berendsen, Vasile Blaga, Sven Schulze, Ioan-Rareş Bogdan, Massimiliano Salini, Antonio Tajani**

### Motion for a resolution

#### Paragraph 18 c (new)

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**18 c. Highlights that stock option tax benefits should, wherever possible, be recognised across Member State borders to allow employees to take advantage of their free movement rights without facing unfavourable and often punitive tax treatment;**

Or. en

## Amendment 269

**Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

### Motion for a resolution

#### Paragraph 19

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

19. Urges the Commission to rely on trade defence instruments (TDI) in order to reduce market distortions resulting from third-country trade; calls for the ‘think small first’ principle to be made a key point of European trade policy;

19. Urges the Commission to rely on trade defence instruments (TDI) in order to reduce market distortions resulting from third-country trade; calls for the ‘think small first’ principle to be made a key point of European trade policy **and calls for introduction of measures which allow SMEs to easily identify relevant and beneficial aspects of the agreements; welcomes the announcement from the Commission to launch a new information portal on customs procedures and formalities;**

Or. en

## Amendment 270

Paolo Borchia

### Motion for a resolution

#### Paragraph 19

##### *Motion for a resolution*

19. Urges the Commission to rely on trade defence instruments (TDI) in order to reduce market distortions resulting from third-country trade; calls for the ‘think small first’ principle to be made a key point of European trade policy;

##### *Amendment*

19. Urges the Commission to rely on trade defence instruments (TDI) in order to reduce market distortions resulting from third-country trade; calls for the ‘think small first’ principle to be made a key point of European trade policy ***and include in trade agreements a standalone SME Chapter that signposts Micro and SME-friendly provisions from other chapters and provides a fast means for Micro and SME owners to identify relevant and beneficial aspects of the agreement;***

Or. en

## Amendment 271

Martina Dlabajová, Christophe Grudler, Iskra Mihaylova, Ivars Ijabs, Claudia Gamon, Bart Groothuis, Nicola Danti, Mauri Pekkarinen, Susana Solís Pérez, Dragoş Pîslaru, Klemen Grošelj, Fredrick Federley, Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, Martin Hojsík, Nicola Beer

### Motion for a resolution

#### Paragraph 19

##### *Motion for a resolution*

19. Urges the Commission to ***rely on trade defence instruments (TDI) in order to reduce market distortions resulting from third-country trade;*** calls for the ‘think small first’ principle to be made a key point ***of*** European trade policy;

##### *Amendment*

19. Urges the Commission to ***pursue a level playing field and a regulatory environment where SMEs can thrive and compete globally;*** calls for the ‘think small first’ principle to be made a key point ***in*** European trade policy, ***notably by including SME-specific chapters and provisions when negotiating FTAs with third countries;***

Or. en

**Amendment 272**

**Sandra Pereira, Sira Rego, Giorgos Georgiou, Cornelia Ernst, Marisa Matias, Manuel Bompard, Marc Botenga**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 19 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**19a. calls on the Commission to monitor developments and assess the possibility of emergency support in addition to measures already announced, including funding and capitalisation;**

Or. pt

**Amendment 273**

**Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 20**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

20. Notes that the COVID-19 crisis has pushed SMEs towards innovative technologies and business models, such as e-commerce and the sharing economy, and calls on the Commission to ensure that R&I investment is geared towards SME participation;

20. Notes that the COVID-19 crisis has pushed SMEs towards innovative technologies, ***ways of organising their work*** and business models, such as ***remote working***, e-commerce and the sharing economy, and calls on the Commission to ensure that R&I investment is geared towards SME participation; ***calls therefore for a substantial under the Horizon Europe to be made available for SMEs through the European Innovation Council, but also collaborative parts of the programme; calls on the Commission to ensure that Horizon Europe's Partnerships and missions will be transparent and inclusive throughout their implementation, in particular as regards SME participation, the setting of their strategic research agenda and annual work programmes as well as fair***

**Amendment 274**

**Martina Dlabajová, Christophe Grudler, Iskra Mihaylova, Ivars Ijabs, Claudia Gamon, Bart Groothuis, Nicola Danti, Mauri Pekkarinen, Susana Solís Pérez, Dragoş Pîslaru, Klemen Grošelj, Fredrick Federley, Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, Martin Hojsík, Valérie Hayer, Nicola Beer**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 20**

*Motion for a resolution*

20. Notes that the COVID-19 crisis has pushed SMEs towards innovative technologies and business models, such as e-commerce and the sharing economy, and calls on the Commission to ensure that R&I investment is geared towards SME participation;

*Amendment*

20. Notes that the COVID-19 crisis has pushed SMEs towards innovative technologies and **digital** business models, such as e-commerce and the sharing economy, and calls on the Commission to ensure that R&I investment is geared towards SME participation; ***stresses the need to strengthen SMEs cybersecurity standards, ensuring that responsible authorities and administrations should collaborate with the private sector to develop one-stop-shops in the Member States to facilitate access to information, guidelines and advice for SMEs to identify and implement action to increase cybersecurity in their activities;***

**Amendment 275**

**Josianne Cutajar, Łukasz Kohut, Carlos Zorrinho, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Adriana Maldonado López, Eva Kaili, Robert Hajšel, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Nicolás González Casares, Alicia Homs Ginel**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 20**

*Motion for a resolution*

20. Notes that the COVID-19 crisis has pushed SMEs towards innovative

*Amendment*

20. Notes that the COVID-19 crisis has pushed SMEs towards innovative

technologies **and** business models, such as e-commerce **and** the sharing economy, and calls on the Commission to ensure that R&I investment is geared towards SME participation;

technologies, business models **as well as new forms of work organisation**, such as e-commerce, the sharing economy and **remote working; points out that a share of SMEs was not ready to swiftly adapt to the new circumstances**; calls **in this regard** on the Commission to ensure that R&I investment is geared towards SME participation; **calls also for the respect of workers' rights throughout this process**;

Or. en

### **Amendment 276**

**Ignazio Corrao, Eleonora Evi**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

#### **Paragraph 20 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**20 a. Underlines that for a just, inclusive and effective ecological transition is critical to ensure adequate knowledge, skilling and re-skilling of SMEs' owners and employees; calls, therefore, on the Commission and the Member States to set-up initiatives aimed at identifying and filling the knowledge and skills gap of the SMEs and their workforce in the context of the transformation of products, processes and services within the ecological transition, while also to design and implement programs to retrain workers whose skills are rendered obsolete by the transition;**

Or. en

### **Amendment 277**

**Martina Dlabajová, Christophe Grudler, Iskra Mihaylova, Ivars Ijabs, Claudia Gamon, Bart Groothuis, Nicola Danti, Mauri Pekkarinen, Susana Solís Pérez, Dragoş Pîslaru, Klemen Grošelj, Fredrick Federley, Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, Valérie Hayer, Nicola Beer**

#### **Motion for a resolution**



## **Paragraph 20 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**20 a. Stresses that investments in innovation should prioritize ecosystems that are inclusive of SMEs and that strengthen co-creation, maturation and transfer of excellent technology to industry as well as the uptake of new technologies, while encouraging businesses to scale up,; notes that the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT) will be crucial in this regard; notes that equity and loan-based funding should be reserved to SMEs involved in ‘close-to-market’ activities and projects in the higher Technology Readiness Levels;**

Or. en

## **Amendment 278**

**Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

## **Motion for a resolution**

### **Paragraph 20 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**20 a. Urges to increase funding from COSME and Horizon Europe for the development of eco-innovative solutions by and for SMEs, particularly for the improvement of product design, resource use reduction and improved processes performance; believes that besides non-technological, organisational, system innovation and public sector innovation must be given as much attention as technology driven solutions, in order to foster the green and digital transition;**

Or. en

**Amendment 279**

**Jens Gieseke**

on behalf of the PPE Group

**Henna Virkkunen, Ivan Štefanec, Pilar del Castillo Vera, Eva Maydell, Pernille Weiss, Hildegard Bentele, Angelika Winzig, Maria da Graça Carvalho, Angelika Niebler, Tom Berendsen, Vasile Blaga, Sven Schulze, Ioan-Rareş Bogdan, Roberta Metsola**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 20 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**20 a. Highlights that it is paramount that the Recovery Plan helps channel our SME strategy providing SMEs with the adequate human resources as well as the technological capacity to be more resilient and competitive in the data economy;**

Or. en

**Amendment 280**

**Patrizia Toia**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 20 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**20 a. calls for European research support instruments and initiatives to ensure the widest participation of SMEs in calls and projects; recalls, in this regard, the importance of the Fast Track to Innovation programme;**

Or. en

**Amendment 281**

**Jens Gieseke**

on behalf of the PPE Group

**Henna Virkkunen, Ivan Štefanec, Pilar del Castillo Vera, Eva Maydell, Pernille Weiss, Hildegard Bentele, Angelika Winzig, Maria da Graça Carvalho, Angelika Niebler, Tom Berendsen, Vasile Blaga, Sven Schulze, Ioan-Rareş Bogdan, Roberta Metsola**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 20 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**20 b.** *Underlines the importance of targeted public policies to support horizontal needs related to the digital transformation processes in micro and SMEs, such as the reduction of the administrative burden, but also the improvement of e-commerce capabilities and uptake of new technologies; calls on the Commission to develop a pilot initiative to accelerate e-commerce adoption in SMEs, for example through training and advisory activities, technical assistance, best practices or integration of the knowledge triangle, involvement of all relevant stakeholders and local authorities;*

Or. en

**Amendment 282**

**Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 20 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**20 b.** *Believes that the current IPR regime is not favouring innovation often to the detriment of SMEs; believes that increased transparency, innovative management and licensing practices, like the open source model, can bring faster market solutions; calls on the Commission to strike a balance between the enforcement of intellectual property rights and the push for innovation, in particular when it comes to ensuring access to medicines, protecting public health and climate change related innovations and technologies;*

Or. en

**Amendment 283**

**Martina Dlabajová, Christophe Grudler, Iskra Mihaylova, Ivars Ijabs, Claudia Gamon, Bart Groothuis, Nicola Danti, Mauri Pekkarinen, Susana Solís Pérez, Dragoş Pîslaru, Klemen Grošelj, Fredrick Federley, Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, Valérie Hayer, Nicola Beer**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 20 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***20 b. Calls the Commission and the Member States to ensure that, whenever possible, R&I instruments, such as the EIC Accelerator, offer fast-track opportunities to start-ups that are developing innovative technologies that can support, for example, the testing, treating or monitoring of the COVID-19 outbreak;***

Or. en

**Amendment 284**

**Martina Dlabajová, Christophe Grudler, Iskra Mihaylova, Ivars Ijabs, Claudia Gamon, Bart Groothuis, Nicola Danti, Mauri Pekkarinen, Susana Solís Pérez, Dragoş Pîslaru, Klemen Grošelj, Fredrick Federley, Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, Martin Hojsík, Valérie Hayer, Nicola Beer**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 20 c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***20 c. Welcomes the enhanced role that InvestEU will play within the Recovery plan, in particular the SME window shall serve as the main financial tool to consolidate SMEs business models, helping them to invest into corporate governance practices, skills and projects that foster competitiveness and market-based innovation;***

Or. en

**Amendment 285**

**Martina Dlabajová, Christophe Grudler, Iskra Mihaylova, Ivars Ijabs, Claudia Gamon, Bart Groothuis, Nicola Danti, Mauri Pekkarinen, Susana Solís Pérez, Dragoş Pîslaru, Klemen Grošelj, Fredrick Federley, Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, Martin Hojsík, Valérie Hayer, Nicola Beer**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 20 d (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***20 d. Welcomes the inclusion of SMEs in the European Space Programmes, including in the development of many downstream services and applications; recognizes the key role that SMEs play in the defence supply chains in Europe, and welcomes the new opportunities for SMEs within the European Defence Fund;***

Or. en

**Amendment 286**

**Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 21**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

21. Regrets that only 17 % of SMEs have so far successfully integrated digital technology into their businesses, and calls for instruments such as the ***Enterprise Europe Network and the Digital Innovation Hubs*** to be reviewed in order to assess and improve their effectiveness;

21. Regrets that only 17 % of SMEs have so far successfully integrated digital technology into their businesses, and calls for instruments such as the Digital Innovation Hubs to be reviewed in order to assess and improve their effectiveness; ***stresses that particular attention must be paid to the provision of basic digital skills to non-digital SMEs, including: information on their digital rights and obligations, cyber security and practice-oriented teaching of digitalisation of business processes; highlights that the need for basic digital trainings is particularly acute in sectors with high***

*percentages of SMEs and low digitalisation levels and for SMEs, which are located in remote areas and dispose of limited access to digital infrastructure and hence expertise; to this end calls for the creation of new Digital Innovation Hubs also in smaller cities, rural and peripheral areas;*

Or. en

#### **Amendment 287**

**Josianne Cutajar, Łukasz Kohut, Carlos Zorrinho, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Adriana Maldonado López, Eva Kaili, Robert Hajšel, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Nicolás González Casares, Alicia Homs Ginel**

#### **Motion for a resolution Paragraph 21**

##### *Motion for a resolution*

21. Regrets that only 17 % of SMEs have so far successfully integrated digital technology into their businesses, **and calls for instruments such as the Enterprise Europe Network and the Digital Innovation Hubs to be reviewed in order to assess and improve their effectiveness;**

##### *Amendment*

21. Regrets that only 17 % of SMEs have so far successfully integrated digital technology into their businesses; **points out that, in order to bridge the digital gap, it is necessary to increase the share of graduates in STEM subjects and to address the gap women are facing in this field; welcomes in this regard the European Skills Agenda;**

Or. en

#### **Amendment 288**

**Paolo Borchia**

#### **Motion for a resolution Paragraph 21**

##### *Motion for a resolution*

21. Regrets that only 17 % of SMEs have so far successfully integrated digital technology into their businesses, and calls for instruments such as the Enterprise Europe Network and the Digital Innovation

##### *Amendment*

21. Regrets that only 17 % of SMEs have so far successfully integrated digital technology into their businesses, and calls for instruments such as the Enterprise Europe Network and the Digital Innovation

Hubs to be reviewed in order to assess and improve their effectiveness;

Hubs to be reviewed in order to assess and improve their effectiveness *involving actively SMEs' representatives*;

Or. en

### **Amendment 289**

**Pietro Fiocchi**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 21**

###### *Motion for a resolution*

21. Regrets that only 17 % of SMEs have so far successfully integrated digital technology into their businesses, and calls for instruments such as the Enterprise Europe Network and the Digital Innovation Hubs to be reviewed in order to assess and improve their effectiveness;

###### *Amendment*

21. Regrets that only 17 % of SMEs have so far successfully integrated digital technology into their businesses, and calls for instruments such as the Enterprise Europe Network and the Digital Innovation Hubs to be reviewed in order to assess and improve their effectiveness *involving actively SMEs representatives*;

Or. en

### **Amendment 290**

**Martina Dlabajová, Christophe Grudler, Iskra Mihaylova, Ivars Ijabs, Claudia Gamon, Bart Groothuis, Nicola Danti, Mauri Pekkarinen, Susana Solís Pérez, Dragoş Pîslaru, Klemen Grošelj, Fredrick Federley, Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, Martin Hojsík, Valérie Hayer, Nicola Beer**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 21**

###### *Motion for a resolution*

21. Regrets that only 17 % of SMEs have so far successfully integrated digital technology into their businesses, and calls for instruments such as the Enterprise Europe Network and the Digital Innovation Hubs to be *reviewed* in order to *assess and* improve their effectiveness;

###### *Amendment*

21. Regrets that only 17 % of SMEs have so far successfully integrated digital technology into their businesses, and calls for instruments such as the Enterprise Europe Network and the Digital Innovation Hubs to be *monitored and reformed accordingly* in order to improve their effectiveness;

Or. en

**Amendment 291**

**Jens Gieseke**

on behalf of the PPE Group

**Henna Virkkunen, Ivan Štefanec, Pilar del Castillo Vera, Eva Maydell, Pernille Weiss, Hildegard Bentele, Angelika Winzig, Maria da Graça Carvalho, Angelika Niebler, Tom Berendsen, Vasile Blaga, Sven Schulze, Ioan-Rareş Bogdan, Roberta Metsola**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 21 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***21 a. Urges Member States to utilise part of the Recovery Fund to financially support SMEs to adopt the adequate skills and the latest digital technologies and forms of connectivity; calls on the Commission to implement a single European digital and data market accessible to SMEs, and ensure that data can flow within the EU and across sectors, promote investment in next generation standards, tools and infrastructures to store and process data and pool European data in key sectors, with EU-wide common and interoperable data spaces;***

Or. en

**Amendment 292**

**Josianne Cutajar, Łukasz Kohut, Carlos Zorrinho, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Adriana Maldonado López, Eva Kaili, Robert Hajšel, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Nicolás González Casares, Alicia Homs Ginel**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 21 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***21 a. Recalls the importance of instruments such as the Enterprise Europe Network and the Digital Innovation Hubs, which are essential to enable the internationalisation, the digitalisation and the pursuit of***



*innovation of SMEs at the local level, including in the environmental field; calls also for the assessment of their outreach through a thorough analysis of the categories of enterprises benefitting from their action, in order to improve their effectiveness and to ensure that these instruments are fit for purpose;*

Or. en

**Amendment 293**

**Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 21 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*21 a. Highlights the vital role of non-personal data and transfer of technologies from academia to SMEs; supports the Commission in establishing European data spaces for non-discriminatory, trusted and secure non-personal data sharing to ramp up data flows between businesses and with governments, using an open data model;*

Or. en

**Amendment 294**

**Ignazio Corrao, Eleonora Evi**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 21 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*21 a. Demands to substantially augment COSME and Horizon Europe resources dedicated to SMEs eco-innovation development, such as reduced and more efficient resource and energy use;*

**Amendment 295**

**Josianne Cutajar, Łukasz Kohut, Carlos Zorrinho, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Adriana Maldonado López, Eva Kaili, Robert Hajšel, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Nicolás González Casares, Alicia Homs Ginel**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 21 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***21 b. Welcomes the Green Deal package with specific regard to the measures immediately beneficial to the European SMEs, such as the Circular Economy Action Plan and the initiatives of the so-called “renovation wave”; points out that the right to repair, while beneficial to consumers, can push SMEs into entering the reparation market segment and that policies aiming at increasing the energy efficiency of buildings can be beneficial not only to the SMEs of the construction sector, but also to promote energy savings among other small and medium firms, thus contributing to reducing their operational costs; calls for the enhancement of a market for Energy Service Companies (ESCos);***

Or. en

**Amendment 296**

**Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 21 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***21 b. Emphasises the need to guarantee full SMEs’ involvement in the industrial ecosystems identified by the Commission as well as in existing and future Industrial***

*Alliances, IPCEIs and the Industrial Forum; regrets the lack of transparency and limited information available, in particular as regards the industrial ecosystem and respective agenda-settings; reminds that the ecosystem approach should have the aim to involve all relevant economic and social stakeholders, including SMEs, in a holistic and transparent way to foster open discussions and overarching solutions along value chains;*

Or. en

**Amendment 297**

**Jens Gieseke**

on behalf of the PPE Group

**Henna Virkkunen, Ivan Štefanec, Pilar del Castillo Vera, Eva Maydell, Pernille Weiss, Hildegard Bentele, Angelika Winzig, Maria da Graça Carvalho, Angelika Niebler, Tom Berendsen, Vasile Blaga, Sven Schulze, Ioan-Rareș Bogdan, Massimiliano Salini, Antonio Tajani, Roberta Metsola**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 21 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**21 b. *Calls on the Commission to adopt a parallel and stronger policy to improve internet infrastructure and connectivity conditions across rural, sub-urban and more peripheral areas and regions, as basic condition to improve digitalisation and embrace an effective transformation; calls on the Commission to consider binding targets for connectivity;***

Or. en

**Amendment 298**

**Jens Gieseke**

on behalf of the PPE Group

**Henna Virkkunen, Ivan Štefanec, Pilar del Castillo Vera, Eva Maydell, Pernille Weiss, Hildegard Bentele, Angelika Winzig, Maria da Graça Carvalho, Angelika Niebler, Tom Berendsen, Vasile Blaga, Sven Schulze, Ioan-Rareș Bogdan, Roberta Metsola**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 21 c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**21 c. Recalls that innovation in SMEs is a key driver for productivity and inclusive growth, it can help solve global and societal challenges and offer better working conditions; recalls that technology development and digitalisation are increasing the opportunities for SMEs to innovate and prosper, accelerating the spread of knowledge, the emergence of new business models and increasing their ability to scale more quickly;**

Or. en

**Amendment 299**

**Josianne Cutajar, Łukasz Kohut, Carlos Zorrinho, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Adriana Maldonado López, Eva Kaili, Robert Hajšel, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Nicolás González Casares, Alicia Homs Ginel**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 21 c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**21 c. Is of the opinion that sustainability advisors will be essential in promoting green opportunities among SMEs, including micro-enterprises, and will enable them to understand the changes in the environmental legislation as well as the opportunities arising from the Green Deal, in line with their structure, business model and, more generally, their needs, since there is no one-size-fits-all approach;**

Or. en

**Amendment 300**  
**Jens Gieseke**

on behalf of the PPE Group

**Henna Virkkunen, Ivan Štefanec, Pilar del Castillo Vera, Eva Maydell, Pernille Weiss, Hildegard Bentele, Angelika Winzig, Maria da Graça Carvalho, Angelika Niebler, Tom Berendsen, Vasile Blaga, Sven Schulze, Ioan-Rareș Bogdan, Massimiliano Salini, Antonio Tajani, Roberta Metsola**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 21 d (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**21 d. Highlights that collaboration and cooperation are crucial dimensions to improve SME`s performances; to this end, clusters and partnerships with all actors in the knowledge triangle (education, research and innovation), and especially with research centres and academia, shall be better promoted and encouraged; calls on the Commission to support the creation of innovation agreements with clusters of SMEs in order to reduce administrative burden, simplify procedures and establish shared services facilities;**

Or. en

**Amendment 301**

**Jens Gieseke**

on behalf of the PPE Group

**Henna Virkkunen, Ivan Štefanec, Pilar del Castillo Vera, Eva Maydell, Pernille Weiss, Hildegard Bentele, Angelika Winzig, Maria da Graça Carvalho, Angelika Niebler, Tom Berendsen, Sven Schulze, Vasile Blaga, Ioan-Rareș Bogdan, Massimiliano Salini, Antonio Tajani, Roberta Metsola**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 21 e (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**21 e. Welcomes the analysis of the Commission on the first industrial ecosystems and stresses the importance of deepening it and broaden it where necessary; underlines the importance of complementing it with a strong horizontal ecosystem for innovation that addresses**

*key transversal issues such as the reduction of red tape and administrative costs, the expansion of infrastructures, the flexibility of the labour market and the mobilisation of skilled labour, the supply of raw materials and the modernisation of competition law;*

Or. en

### **Amendment 302**

**Jens Gieseke**

on behalf of the PPE Group

**Henna Virkkunen, Ivan Štefanec, Pilar del Castillo Vera, Pernille Weiss, Eva Maydell, Hildegard Bentele, Angelika Winzig, Maria da Graça Carvalho, Angelika Niebler, Tom Berendsen, Vasile Blaga, Sven Schulze, Ioan-Rareş Bogdan, Sara Skytvedal, Massimiliano Salini, Antonio Tajani**

### **Motion for a resolution**

#### **Paragraph 21 f (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*21 f. Emphasises that overly detailed legislation in areas such as AI and cybersecurity run the risk of creating excessively bureaucratic and complicated legislation for SMEs operating in the single market; calls for the shift of focus to be on a principle-based and technology-neutral legislative framework that enhances market development;*

Or. en

### **Amendment 303**

**Margarita de la Pisa Carrión**

### **Motion for a resolution**

#### **Paragraph 22**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

*22. Calls for a binding SME test able to assess the economic impact of legislative proposals on SMEs; calls for a*

*deleted*

*proper assessment of the cost-effectiveness of the planned tightening of current CO2 targets;*

Or. en

#### **Amendment 304**

**Martina Dlabajová, Christophe Grudler, Iskra Mihaylova, Ivars Ijabs, Claudia Gamon, Bart Groothuis, Nicola Danti, Mauri Pekkarinen, Susana Solís Pérez, Dragoș Pîslaru, Klemen Grošelj, Fredrick Federley, Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, Martin Hojsík, Valérie Hayer**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 22**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**22. Calls for a binding SME test able to assess the economic impact of legislative proposals on SMEs; calls for a proper assessment of the cost-effectiveness of the planned tightening of current CO2 targets;**

*deleted*

Or. en

#### **Amendment 305**

**Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 22**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**22. Calls for a binding SME test able to assess the *economic* impact of legislative proposals on SMEs; *calls for a proper assessment of the cost-effectiveness* of the *planned tightening of current CO2 targets*;**

**22. Calls for a binding SME test able to assess the impact of legislative proposals on SMEs *and to develop legislation that takes account* of the *needs and specificities of different types of SMEs*; *calls on the Commission to submit minimum requirements, collect and promote best practices and develop guidelines for the systematic implementation of SME tests at national level*;**

### Amendment 306

**Josianne Cutajar, Łukasz Kohut, Carlos Zorrinho, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Adriana Maldonado López, Eva Kaili, Robert Hajšel, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Nicolás González Casares, Alicia Homs Ginel**

#### Motion for a resolution

##### Paragraph 22

###### *Motion for a resolution*

22. Calls for a binding SME test able to assess the economic impact of legislative proposals on SMEs; calls for a ***proper*** assessment of the ***cost-effectiveness*** of the ***planned tightening of current CO2 targets***;

###### *Amendment*

22. Calls for a binding SME test able to assess the economic impact of legislative proposals on SMEs; calls ***in this regard*** for a ***comprehensive*** assessment of the ***potential costs and burdens for European SMEs and*** of the ***effects on workers***;

Or. en

### Amendment 307

**Sara Skyttedal**

#### Motion for a resolution

##### Paragraph 23

###### *Motion for a resolution*

23. Recalls the need to actively involve SME representatives in policy-making in order to reach a sustainable approach to the Green Deal objectives, which need to be based on accurate sustainability assessments;

###### *Amendment*

23. Recalls the need to actively involve SME representatives in policy-making in order to reach a sustainable approach to the Green Deal objectives, which need to be based on accurate sustainability assessments; ***reminds the commission that labelling poses administrative burdens for businesses, recognises that only essential information should be demanded, whereby simple and automated compliance is key***;

Or. en

### Amendment 308



**Josianne Cutajar, Łukasz Kohut, Carlos Zorrinho, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Adriana Maldonado López, Eva Kaili, Robert Hajšel, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Nicolás González Casares, Alicia Homs Ginel**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 23**

*Motion for a resolution*

23. Recalls the need to actively involve SME representatives in policy-making in order to reach a sustainable approach to the Green Deal objectives, ***which need to be based on accurate sustainability assessments;***

*Amendment*

23. Recalls the need to actively involve SME ***and workers'*** representatives in policy-making in order to reach a sustainable approach to the Green Deal objectives; ***recalls, in this regard, the importance of promoting social dialogue in designing and implementing SME policies, coherently with the European Pillar of Social Rights;***

Or. en

**Amendment 309**

**Martina Dlabajová, Christophe Grudler, Iskra Mihaylova, Ivars Ijabs, Claudia Gamon, Bart Groothuis, Nicola Danti, Mauri Pekkarinen, Susana Solís Pérez, Dragoş Pîslaru, Klemen Grošelj, Fredrick Federley, Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, Martin Hojsík, Valérie Hayer, Nicola Beer**

**Motion for a resolution  
Paragraph 23**

*Motion for a resolution*

23. Recalls the need to actively involve SME representatives in policy-making in order to reach a sustainable approach to the Green Deal objectives, which need to be based on accurate sustainability assessments;

*Amendment*

23. Recalls the need to actively involve SME representatives in policy-making in order to reach a sustainable approach to the Green Deal objectives, which need to be based on accurate sustainability assessments; ***welcomes the Commission proposal to provide Enterprise Europe Networks with dedicated Sustainability Advisors;***

Or. en

**Amendment 310  
Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 23**

*Motion for a resolution*

23. Recalls the need to actively involve SME representatives in policy-making in order to ***reach a sustainable approach to the Green Deal objectives, which need to be based on accurate sustainability assessments;***

*Amendment*

23. Recalls the need to actively involve SME representatives in policy-making in order to ***ensure the adequate consideration of SME specificities in EU regulation;***

Or. en

**Amendment 311**

**Martina Dlabajová, Christophe Grudler, Iskra Mihaylova, Ivars Ijabs, Claudia Gamon, Bart Groothuis, Nicola Danti, Mauri Pekkarinen, Susana Solís Pérez, Dragoş Pîslaru, Klemen Grošelj, Fredrick Federley, Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, Martin Hojsík, Valérie Hayer, Nicola Beer**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 23 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***23 a. Calls the Commission and the Member States to launch a European Renovation Wave, which could support struggling SMEs across Europe, boosting the energy and the construction sector, while providing benefits for the businesses and spurring local renewable energy sources; stresses the need for private investment and European Funds to prioritise SMEs through renovation and retrofit projects, financial and fiscal incentives; underlines the role of the Just Transition Fund in financing, inter alia, upskilling and reskilling workers for construction and renovation sectors where SMEs account for 97% of their operators;***

Or. en

**Amendment 312**

**Sara Skyttedal**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 23 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**23 a.** *Considers that a digital product passport, well designed and synchronised with existing systems, could help reduce this burden, however, considers that a digital product passport, well designed and synchronised with existing systems, business, standardisation bodies and global standards.*

Or. en

**Amendment 313**

**Robert Roos**

on behalf of the ECR Group

**Elżbieta Kruk, Jessica Stegrud, Izabela-Helena Kloc**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 23 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

**23 a.** *Calls on the Commission to ensure that recovery measures benefit all sectors; points out that it would be unjust to give extra support to certain sectors simply because activities are carried out in these sectors that are EU pet projects;*

Or. en

**Amendment 314**

**Martina Dlabajová, Christophe Grudler, Iskra Mihaylova, Ivars Ijabs, Claudia Gamon, Bart Groothuis, Nicola Danti, Mauri Pekkarinen, Susana Solís Pérez, Dragoş Pîslaru, Klemen Grošelj, Fredrick Federley, Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, Valérie Hayer**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 23 b (new)**

**23 b. Regrets the absence of measures specifically targeted to SMEs in the EU Strategy for Energy System Integration<sup>1a</sup>; stresses that SMEs are essential in building a smart, digital and resilient energy infrastructure and their role shall be encouraged; calls the future PCIs lists to prioritise projects that include SME applicants;**

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<sup>1a</sup> COM(2020) 299 - "Powering a climate-neutral economy: An EU Strategy for Energy System Integration"

Or. en

#### **Amendment 315**

**Josianne Cutajar, Łukasz Kohut, Carlos Zorrinho, Maria-Manuel Leitão-Marques, Adriana Maldonado López, Eva Kaili, Robert Hajšel, Lina Gálvez Muñoz, Nicolás González Casares, Alicia Homs Ginel**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

#### **Paragraph 24**

*Motion for a resolution*

24. Recalls that achieving climate neutrality is a global challenge, and notes that a carbon border mechanism can play an essential role in protecting the competitiveness of European SMEs, while pushing for the adoption of **higher** environmental standards by the EU's international trade partners;

*Amendment*

24. Recalls that achieving climate neutrality is a global challenge, and notes that a carbon border mechanism can play an essential role in protecting the competitiveness of European SMEs, while pushing for the adoption of **high** environmental standards by the EU's international trade partners; **underlines that such an instrument should not be detrimental to the functioning of the Single Market and that consumers, especially those of Member States heavily relying on imports from third countries, should be protected; affirms that a carbon border mechanism should go hand in hand with an overall industrial policy aiming at the promotion of strategic value chains that are based in the European Union, in order to increase its industrial**

*autonomy;*

Or. en

**Amendment 316**

**Jens Gieseke**

on behalf of the PPE Group

**Henna Virkkunen, Ivan Štefanec, Pilar del Castillo Vera, Eva Maydell, Pernille Weiss, Hildegard Bentele, Angelika Winzig, Maria da Graça Carvalho, Angelika Niebler, Tom Berendsen, Vasile Blaga, Sven Schulze, Ioan-Rareş Bogdan, Markus Pieper, Sara Skyttedal**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 24**

*Motion for a resolution*

24. Recalls that achieving climate neutrality is a global challenge, and notes that a carbon border mechanism can play an essential role in protecting the competitiveness of European SMEs, while pushing for the adoption of higher environmental standards by the EU's international trade partners;

*Amendment*

24. Recalls that achieving climate neutrality is a global challenge, and notes that a ***WTO-compatible*** carbon border mechanism ***and a special carbon leakage protection for industrial SMEs*** can play an essential role in protecting the competitiveness of European SMEs, while pushing for the adoption of higher environmental standards by the EU's international trade partners; ***acknowledges that only a WTO conform mechanism will avoid retaliation by trade partners which could significantly harm the competitiveness of European SMEs; acknowledges that only a WTO conform mechanism will avoid retaliation by trade partners which could significantly harm the competitiveness of European SMEs;***

Or. en

**Amendment 317**

**Ignazio Corrao, Eleonora Evi**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 24**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

24. Recalls that achieving climate neutrality is a global challenge, and notes that a carbon border mechanism can play an essential role in protecting the competitiveness of European SMEs, while pushing for the adoption of higher environmental standards by the EU's international trade partners;

24. Recalls that achieving climate neutrality is a global challenge, and notes that a Carbon Border Mechanism can play an essential role in protecting the competitiveness of European SMEs, while pushing for the adoption of higher environmental *and social* standards by the EU's international trade partners; *in this regard, welcome the Commission intention of proposing a WTO compatible Border Carbon Adjustment tax and calls on the Commission to contextually assess the opportunity to alternatively apply an Emissions Added Tax (EAT) able to monetise the CO2 emissions of the manufacturing process on the final product VAT.;*

Or. en

#### **Amendment 318**

**Robert Roos**

on behalf of the ECR Group

**Jessica Stegrud, Izabela-Helena Kloc**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 24**

###### *Motion for a resolution*

24. Recalls that *achieving* climate *neutrality* is a global challenge, *and notes that a carbon border mechanism can play an essential role in protecting the competitiveness of European SMEs, while pushing for the adoption of higher environmental standards by the EU's international trade partners;*

###### *Amendment*

24. Recalls that climate *change* is a global challenge;

Or. en

#### **Amendment 319**

**Sara Skyttedal**

#### **Motion for a resolution**

##### **Paragraph 24**

*Motion for a resolution*

24. Recalls that achieving climate neutrality is a global challenge, and notes that a carbon border mechanism can play an essential role in protecting the competitiveness of European SMEs, while pushing for the adoption of higher environmental standards by the EU's international trade partners;

*Amendment*

24. Recalls that achieving climate neutrality is a global challenge, and notes that a carbon border mechanism can play an essential role in protecting the competitiveness of European SMEs, while pushing for the adoption of higher environmental standards by the EU's international trade partners; ***common standards or measures should be voluntary in order to meet specific national conditions and challenges, existing national work should be used and duplication of work avoided.***

Or. en

**Amendment 320**

**Martina Dlabajová, Christophe Grudler, Iskra Mihaylova, Ivars Ijabs, Claudia Gamon, Bart Groothuis, Nicola Danti, Mauri Pekkarinen, Susana Solís Pérez, Dragoş Pîslaru, Klemen Grošelj, Fredrick Federley, Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, Valérie Hayer, Nicola Beer**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 24**

*Motion for a resolution*

24. Recalls that achieving climate neutrality is a global challenge, and notes that a carbon border mechanism ***can play an essential*** role in ***protecting*** the competitiveness of European SMEs, while pushing for the adoption of higher environmental standards by the EU's international trade partners;

*Amendment*

24. Recalls that achieving climate neutrality is a global challenge, and notes that ***the evaluation of*** a carbon border mechanism, ***designed in compliance with WTO rules, could play a significant*** role in ***enhancing*** the competitiveness of European SMEs, while pushing for the adoption of higher environmental standards by the EU's international trade partners;

Or. en

**Amendment 321**

**Henrike Hahn**

on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 24**

*Motion for a resolution*

24. Recalls that achieving climate neutrality is a global challenge, and notes that a carbon border mechanism can play an essential role in protecting the competitiveness of European SMEs, while pushing for the adoption of higher environmental standards by the EU's international trade partners;

*Amendment*

24. Recalls that achieving climate neutrality is a global challenge, and notes that a Carbon Border ***Adjustment*** Mechanism can play an essential role in protecting the competitiveness of European SMEs, while pushing for the adoption of higher ***climate related***, environmental ***and social*** standards by the EU's international trade partners;

Or. en

**Amendment 322**  
**Henrike Hahn**  
on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 24 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***24 a. Highlights the increasing role of standard setting in the context of the ongoing digitalisation and adoption of green technologies; stresses the importance of involving SME representatives in standardisation processes, to ensure that standards are fit for SME needs and are known among SME stakeholders;***

Or. en

**Amendment 323**  
**Ignazio Corrao, Eleonora Evi**

**Motion for a resolution**  
**Paragraph 24 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*



***24 a. Welcomes the introduction of the EU SME Envoy; believe he should be endowed with sufficient political power to truly give and impulse for SME-friendly policies and have a monitoring role on their implementations***

Or. en

**Amendment 324**

**Patrizia Toia**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 24 a (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***24 a. Calls for non-repayable financing and incentives to be made available for SMEs to respond to the green transition;***

Or. en

**Amendment 325**

**Patrizia Toia**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 24 b (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***24 b. Calls for specific support instruments dedicated to SMEs originating from workers buy-outs;***

Or. en

**Amendment 326**

**Patrizia Toia**

**Motion for a resolution**

**Paragraph 24 c (new)**

*Motion for a resolution*

*Amendment*

***24 c. Recalls that special attention should be paid to SMEs involved in urban regeneration projects;***

Or. en