

**Question for oral answer O-000028/2021  
to the Commission**

Rule 136

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on behalf of the PPE Group

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on behalf of the ECR Group

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on behalf of the ID Group

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**Subject:** Implementation of the better regulation agenda/reduction target for administrative burdens

The President of the Commission made a commitment to cut administrative burdens and apply the 'one-in-one out' (OIOO) principle. In 2020 the Commission presented its Industry and SME Strategy, committed to cutting the regulatory burden for SMEs. Very little has happened since then. This is disappointing given the urgent need to implement better regulation for SMEs, many of which are struggling to recover.

1. Parliament's resolution on a new industrial strategy for Europe<sup>1</sup> calls for the OIOO principle to be implemented in a way that whenever new provisions introduce compliance costs, existing provisions need to be revised, ensuring that compliance costs in a given sector do not increase, without prejudice to the co-legislators' prerogatives. How does the Commission intend to implement the OIOO principle?
2. Parliament's resolution on a new strategy for European SMEs<sup>2</sup> states that the OIOO principle should be seen as a starting point because it only maintains the status quo, and that more ambition is needed. Is the Commission willing to work in this direction?
3. The same resolution calls for a concrete and binding target to reduce administrative burdens, with an impact assessment to be accomplished by June 2021. Will the Commission follow up on this and if so, within what timeframe?
4. Furthermore, the resolution calls on the Commission to ensure the effectiveness and good functioning of the Regulatory Scrutiny Board (RSB) by ensuring it has a majority of external experts and support from the Joint Research Centre. What are the Commission's plans for strengthening the RSB?

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Lapses: 20.7.2021

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<sup>1</sup> Texts adopted, P9\_TA(2020)0321.

<sup>2</sup> Texts adopted, P9\_TA(2020)0359.