

Basic information	
2016/2248(INI) INI - Own-initiative procedure	Procedure completed
Annual report on the single market governance within the European semester 2017	
Subject 2 Internal market, single market	

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	IMCO Internal Market and Consumer Protection	LÓPEZ-ISTÚRIZ WHITE Antonio (PPE)	13/07/2016
		Shadow rapporteur WESTPHAL Kerstin (S&D) CZESAK Edward (ECR) HYUSMENOVA Filiz (ALDE)	
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meetings	Date
	Economic and Financial Affairs ECOFIN	3515	2017-01-27
	Economic and Financial Affairs ECOFIN	3506	2016-12-06
European Commission	Commission DG	Commissioner	
	Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs	BIEŃKOWSKA Elżbieta	

Key events			
Date	Event	Reference	Summary
06/10/2016	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
06/12/2016	Debate in Council		
26/01/2017	Vote in committee		
27/01/2017	Debate in Council		
01/02/2017	Committee report tabled for plenary	A8-0016/2017	Summary
14/02/2017	Debate in Parliament		

15/02/2017	Decision by Parliament	T8-0040/2017	Summary
15/02/2017	Results of vote in Parliament		
15/02/2017	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2016/2248(INI)
Procedure type	INI - Own-initiative procedure
Procedure subtype	Annual report
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 55
Other legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 165
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	IMCO/8/08011

Documentation gateway				
European Parliament				
Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE592.332	20/10/2016	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE594.069	16/11/2016	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE595.422	30/11/2016	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A8-0016/2017	01/02/2017	Summary
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T8-0040/2017	15/02/2017	Summary
European Commission				
Document type	Reference		Date	Summary
Commission response to text adopted in plenary	SP(2017)358		31/08/2017	

Annual report on the single market governance within the European semester 2017

2016/2248(INI) - 01/02/2017 - Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading

The Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection adopted the own-initiative report by Antonio LÓPEZ-ISTÚRIZ WHITE (EPP, ES) on the Annual Report on the Single Market Governance within the European Semester.

The European Union's changing environment is a permanent challenge to the single market which needs to adapt. Identified inadequate levels of investment and obstacles in product and services markets hamper productivity and competitiveness of the European economy.

The European Semester aims to increase the coordination of economic and fiscal policies across the EU in order to enhance stability, promote growth and employment and strengthen competitiveness.

Strengthening the single market pillar of the European Semester: Members reiterated that the single market is one of the foundations of the EU and is the backbone of Member States' economies and of the European project as a whole. It remains fragmented and insufficiently implemented and has

great potential for growth, innovation and jobs. The Commission is called upon to ensure the completion of all dimensions of the single market, including goods, services, capital, labour, energy, transport, and in the digital sector.

Members urged the creation of a **strong single market pillar** with a social dimension within the European Semester. The single market pillar within the European Semester would allow a regular evaluation of the governance of the single market through systematic checks of national legislation.

In this regard, the Commission is also urged to:

- carry out systematic monitoring of implementation and enforcement of the single market rules through the country-specific recommendations (CSRs);
- report to Parliament on the progress made by Member States in the implementation of the CSRs related to the functioning of the single market;
- report to the competent committee of Parliament on the measures taken to ensure progress in the implementation of the CSRs and the progress achieved thus far.

Tapping the potential of the single market in key growth areas: the report stressed that, despite the abolition of tariff barriers in the single market, a **vast number of various unnecessary non-tariff barriers (NTBs) still exist**. Strengthening the single market requires urgent action at both EU and national level in order to address those unnecessary NTBs. Moreover, barriers related to the free provision of services are of particular concern as they hamper, above all, the cross-border activity of small and medium-sized enterprises, which are a driving force of development of the EU economy.

The Commission is called upon to:

- promptly present the concrete proposals linked to the enforcement of single market rules (e.g. the creation of a simple, modern and fraud-proof VAT system);
- ensure that the EU public procurement rules are implemented in a timely manner;
- act strongly against protectionism by Member States;
- promote the Digital Single Market;
- present a proposal for a revision of the Mutual Recognition Regulation which should ensure that companies have an effective right to free circulation within the EU of products that are lawfully marketed in a Member State;
- press forward with its vision for a single and coherent **European Standardisation System** that adapts to the changing environment, supports multiple policies and brings benefits to consumers and businesses;
- improve governance of the single market by developing a set of analytical tools including social indicators to more properly measure its performance within the framework of the single market pillar of the European Semester.

Overall, Members called for the **framework for single market governance to be enforced** and for the monitoring and assessment of the correct, timely and effective implementation and application of single market rules to be strengthened.

The Commission is called upon to:

- precede each legislative initiative with a thorough impact assessment which takes into account the consequences of the act for the business environment in all Member States;
- rigorously pursue its actions in the area of smart enforcement and a culture of compliance;
- strengthen the market surveillance mechanism to detect unsafe and non-compliant products and to remove them from the single market;

Lastly, Members stressed the importance of the Commission's help and cooperation with Member States in the field of better transposition, implementation and application of single market legislation. They also stressed, in this context, the need for further actions at national level, including with a view to reducing administrative burdens and avoiding adding additional requirements when transposing directives into national law ('gold-plating'), such as tax barriers to cross-border investment.

Annual report on the single market governance within the European semester 2017

2016/2248(INI) - 15/02/2017 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 568 votes to 122 with 1 abstention, a resolution on the Annual Report on the Single Market Governance within the European Semester.

The European Semester aims to increase the coordination of economic and fiscal policies across the EU in order to enhance stability, promote growth and employment and strengthen competitiveness.

For the European Semester to successfully foster economic growth and stabilise economies, it must encompass the single market, which is one of the cornerstones of the EU and one of its major achievements.

Strengthening the single market pillar of the European Semester: Members noted that the single market remains fragmented and insufficiently implemented and its potential for growth, innovation and jobs remains mostly unexploited. They called on the Commission to ensure **the completion of all dimensions of the single market**, including goods, services, capital, labour, energy, transport, and in the digital sector.

Parliament reiterated its call for the creation of a **strong single market pillar** with a social dimension within the European Semester, with a system of regular monitoring and identification of the country-specific barriers to the single market. The pillar would allow a **regular evaluation of the governance of the single market** through systematic checks of national legislation. Members invited the Commission to **report to Parliament** on the progress made

by Member States in the implementation of the country-specific recommendations (CSRs), related to the functioning of the single market. They believed that the ownership of the CSRs by national parliaments needs to be strengthened.

Tapping the potential of the single market in key growth areas: Parliament stressed that, despite the abolition of tariff barriers in the single market, a **vast number of various unnecessary non-tariff barriers (NTBs) still exist**. Strengthening the single market requires urgent action at both EU and national level in order to address those unnecessary NTBs, in a way that is compatible with the promotion of social, consumer and environmental standards. Moreover, **barriers related to the free provision of services** are of particular concern as they hamper, above all, the cross-border activity of small and medium-sized enterprises, which are a driving force of development of the EU economy.

The Commission is called upon to:

- ensure the best possible conditions for the **collaborative economy** to develop and thrive;
- promptly present the concrete proposals linked to the enforcement of single market rules (e.g. the creation of a simple, modern and fraud-proof VAT system);
- ensure that the EU public procurement rules are implemented in a timely manner;
- act strongly against protectionism by Member States;
- promote the Digital Single Market;
- present a proposal for a revision of the Mutual Recognition Regulation which should ensure that companies have an effective right to free circulation within the EU of products that are lawfully marketed in a Member State;
- press forward with its vision for a single and coherent **European Standardisation System** that adapts to the changing environment, supports multiple policies and brings benefits to consumers and businesses.

Strengthening the governance of the single market: Parliament called on the Commission to improve governance of the single market by developing a **set of analytical tools** including social indicators to more properly measure its performance within the framework of the single market pillar of the European Semester. It called for the framework for single market governance to be enforced and for the monitoring and assessment of the **application of single market rules** to be strengthened.

The Commission is called upon to:

- precede each legislative initiative with a thorough **impact assessment** which takes into account the consequences of the act for the business environment in all Member States;
- rigorously pursue its actions in the area of smart enforcement and a culture of compliance;
- strengthen the **market surveillance mechanism** to detect unsafe and non-compliant products and to remove them from the single market;

Lastly, Parliament stressed the importance of the Commission's help and cooperation with Member States in the field of **better transposition, implementation and application** of single market legislation. It also stressed, in this context, the need for further actions at national level, including with a view to reducing administrative burdens and avoiding adding additional requirements when transposing directives into national law ("gold-plating").