

Dear Sir or Madam,

Thank you very much for your inquiry concerning the Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme.

The family businesses association DIE FAMILIENUNTERNEHMER supports the objectives of the Small Business Act and the CIP. The provision of venture capital and other initiatives are to be fundamentally welcomed and should be continued. Care must be taken to ensure, however, that the measures being considered, and their continuation, do not lead to market distortions. In the case of the measures proposed and already established, such distortions will, in our view, be very minor.

DIE FAMILIENUNTERNEHMER therefore welcomes the proposed and implemented improvements to the business environment of SMEs and supports their continuation. We will accordingly not be making any comments for publication this time, as we have hardly any criticisms to make.

DIE FAMILIENUNTERNEHMER would be very pleased if the European Commission would continue in future to invite the association to give its comments and take part in consultations.

Yours faithfully,

Henry Borrmann

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Economic Policy Officer

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