

Letter from: Erik Christensen, Chairman, European Affairs Committee
Date: 29 September 2016
To: Andrus Ansip, Vice-President, European Commission
Ref.: 15-000810-25

On behalf of the Danish Parliament's European Affairs Committee, I should like to thank you for having visited the Committee on 16 September 2016. The Committee was pleased to hear the Commission's views on the many measures to be taken in the digital single market.

Thank you also for the helpful replies which you gave to the Committee's questions, including your replies to the concerns raised by small and medium-sized enterprises regarding e-commerce and geo-blocking.

It was the Committee's understanding that the Proposal (COM(2016) 289) did not impose on online sales companies any new obligations to provide information in several languages or to take account of other countries' consumer legislation, for example. Such companies are subject to the sales laws of each country. Their obligations will be the same as those governing ordinary offline sales. As a result, customers themselves are responsible for ensuring that product standards are compatible with those in their own country (e.g. for gas cookers or the plugs of electrical devices). By the same token, it is the customer's responsibility to look into whether the rules on chemical substances in their own country are different from those in the country of sale.

It would greatly assist the further discussion of geo-blocking in Denmark if the Commission would confirm that the Committee's understanding is correct.

(Complimentary close)