



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 31.10.2018  
C(2018) 7058 final*

*Dear Presidents,*

*The Commission would like to thank the Cortes Generales for their Opinion on the Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing the Programme for single market, competitiveness of enterprises, including small and medium-sized enterprises, and European statistics, and repealing Regulations (EU) No 99/2013, (EU) No 1287/2013, (EU) No 254/2014, (EU) No 258/2014, (EU) No 652/2014 and (EU) 2017/826 {COM(2018) 441 final}, hereinafter called 'Single Market Programme'.*

*The single market is a cornerstone of the Union. Since its inception, it is a major contributor to growth, competitiveness and employment. The single market has helped create jobs and brought consumers greater choice of goods and services at lower prices. It continues to be an engine for building a stronger, more balanced and fairer economy.*

*The Single Market Programme brings together activities financed under five predecessor programmes in the areas of competitiveness of enterprises, consumer protection, customers and end-users in financial services, policy making in financial services and food chain regulation. Furthermore, it includes actions previously financed under several Commission budget lines supporting the development and enforcement of the Union law, in such areas as single market for goods and services, public procurement, company law, financial services, free movement of capital, market surveillance, standardisation and development of the single market governance tools, or new actions in the field of competition policy.*

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*All of these activities are united by their shared objectives to regulate, implement, facilitate, enforce and protect various activities and actors within the single market; and to preserve a single market that continues to function without interruption. In addition, the Single Market Programme establishes the financial framework for providing high-quality, comparable and reliable European statistics to underpin the design, monitoring and evaluation of all the Union policies.*

*The Single Market Programme aims to strengthen and facilitate the coordination of joint actions between the competent authorities of Member States and between Member States authorities and the Commission. Through this, the Programme aims to achieve a better enforcement of existing internal market rules, effective prevention of barriers, increased protection of citizens and consumers as well as creation of a level playing field for businesses across the EU.*

*The Commission welcomes the Cortes Generales' support for the proposal and their assessment that the proposal complies with the principle of proportionality.*

*The proposal is currently in the legislative process involving both the European Parliament and the Council. The Commission is hopeful that an agreement will be reached in the near future.*

*The Commission thanks the Cortes Generales for their support and looks forward to continuing the political dialogue in the future.*

*Yours faithfully,*

*Frans Timmermans  
First Vice-President*

*Elżbieta Bieńkowska  
Member of the Commission*