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INFORMATION NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council

To: Permanent Representatives Committee/Council

Subject: 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

- Outcome of the European Parliament's first reading,
(Strasbourg, 11 to 14 February 2019)

I. INTRODUCTION

The rapporteur, Nicola DANTI (S&D, IT), presented a report on the proposal for a Regulation on behalf of the Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection. The report contained 149 amendment(s) (amendments number 1 to 149) to the proposal. In addition, the EUL/NGL political group tabled 9 amendment(s) (amendments number 150 to 158).

II. VOTE

When it voted on 12 February 2019, the plenary adopted amendments 1 to 149 to the proposal for a Regulation. No other amendments were adopted.

The Commission's proposal as thus amended constitutes the Parliament's first-reading position which is contained in its legislative resolution as set out in the Annex hereto¹.

¹ The version of the Parliament's position in the legislative resolution has been marked up to indicate the changes made by the amendments to the Commission's proposal. Additions to the Commission's text are highlighted in ***bold and italics***. The symbol "■" indicates deleted text.

Programme for single market, competitiveness of enterprises and European statistics *I**

European Parliament legislative resolution of 12 February 2019 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)0441 – C8-0254/2018 – 2018/0231(COD))

(Ordinary legislative procedure: first reading)

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the Commission proposal to Parliament and the Council (COM(2018)0441),
 - having regard to Article 294(2), Article 43(2), Article 168(4)(b) and Articles 114, 173 and 338 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, pursuant to which the Commission submitted the proposal to Parliament (C8-0254/2018),
 - having regard to Article 294(3), of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,
 - having regard to the opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee of 17 October 2018²,
 - having regard to the opinion of the Committee of the Regions of 5 December 2018³,
 - having regard to Rule 59 of its Rules of Procedure,
 - having regard to the report of the Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection and also the opinions of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs, the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety, the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy, the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development and the Committee on Budgets (A8-0052/2019),
1. Adopts its position at first reading hereinafter set out;
 2. Calls on the Commission to refer the matter to Parliament again if it replaces, substantially amends or intends to substantially amend its proposal;
 3. Instructs its President to forward its position to the Council, the Commission and the national parliaments.

² Not yet published in the Official Journal

³ Not yet published in the Official Journal

Amendment 1

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 1

Text proposed by the Commission

(1) The internal market is a cornerstone of the Union. Since its inception, it has proved a major contributor to growth, competitiveness and employment. It has generated new opportunities and economies of scale for European businesses, notably micro, small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs), and strengthened their industrial competitiveness. The internal market contributed to the creation of jobs and offered greater choice at lower prices for consumers. It continues to be an engine for building a stronger, more balanced and fairer economy. It is one of the Union's major achievements and its best asset in an increasingly global world.

Amendment

(1) The internal market is a cornerstone of the Union. Since its inception, it has proved a major contributor to growth, competitiveness and employment. It has generated new opportunities and economies of scale for European businesses, notably micro, small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs), and strengthened their industrial competitiveness, ***and it should continue benefitting all citizens equally.*** The internal market contributed to the creation of jobs and offered greater choice at lower prices for consumers ***while guaranteeing high quality of products and services offered.*** It continues to be an engine for building ***a more integrated market and*** a stronger, more balanced and fairer economy. It is one of the Union's major achievements and its best asset in an increasingly global world, ***as well as being core element in achieving the transformation into a resource- and energy-efficient sustainable economy to respond to the increasing pressure of climate change.***

Amendment 2

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 2

Text proposed by the Commission

(2) The internal market has to continuously adapt to a rapidly changing

Amendment

(2) The internal market has to continuously adapt to a rapidly changing

environment of digital revolution and globalisation. A new era of digital innovation continues to provide opportunities for businesses and individuals, creates new products and business models but equally constitutes a challenge to regulation and enforcement.

environment of digital revolution and globalisation. A new era of digital innovation continues to provide opportunities ***and benefits to the economy and to daily lives, especially*** for businesses and individuals, creates new products and business models but equally constitutes a challenge to regulation and enforcement, ***and to consumer protection and safety.***

Amendment 3

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 3

Text proposed by the Commission

(3) The substantial body of Union legislation underpins the functioning of the internal market. This concerns, in particular, competitiveness, standardisation, consumer protection, market surveillance and food chain regulation but also rules concerning business, trade and financial transactions and the promotion of fair competition providing for a level playing field essential for the functioning of the internal market.

Amendment

(3) The substantial body of Union legislation underpins the functioning of the internal market. This concerns, in particular, competitiveness, standardisation, ***mutual recognition***, consumer protection, market surveillance and food chain regulation but also rules concerning business, trade and financial transactions and the promotion of fair competition providing for a level playing field essential for the functioning of the internal market ***for the benefit of consumers and businesses.***

Amendment 4

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 4

Text proposed by the Commission

(4) Still, barriers to the proper functioning of the internal market remain and the new obstacles emerge. Adopting rules is only a first step, but making them work is as important. ***This*** is ultimately a

Amendment

(4) Still, ***unjustified, discriminatory and disproportionate*** barriers to the proper functioning of the internal market, remain and the new obstacles emerge. Adopting rules is only a first step, but making them

matter of citizens' trust in the Union, in its capacity to deliver, and ability to create jobs and growth while protecting the public interest.

work is as important. *Inadequate enforcement of existing rules, barriers to free movement of goods and services, and low levels of cross-border public procurement limit the opportunities for businesses and consumers. Addressing such obstacles* is ultimately a matter of citizens' trust in the Union, in its capacity to deliver, and *its* ability to create *quality* jobs and growth while protecting the public interest.

Amendment 5

Proposal for a regulation Recital 5

Text proposed by the Commission

(5) Several programmes for Union action exist currently in the fields of competitiveness of enterprises *including SMEs*, consumer protection, customers and end-users in financial services, policy making in financial services and food chain. Some additional activities are financed directly under the internal market budget lines. It is necessary to streamline and exploit synergies between various actions and provide for a more flexible and agile framework to finance activities aiming to achieve a well-functioning internal market *in the most cost-efficient manner*. It is therefore necessary to establish a new programme bringing together activities financed previously under those other programmes and other relevant budget lines. The programme should also include new initiatives which aim to improve the functioning of the internal market.

Amendment

(5) Several programmes for Union action exist currently in the fields of competitiveness of enterprises, *especially micro, small and medium-sized enterprises*, consumer protection, customers and end-users in financial services, policy making in financial services and food chain. Some additional activities are financed directly under the internal market budget lines. It is necessary to streamline and exploit synergies between various actions and provide for a more flexible, *transparent, simplified* and agile framework to finance activities aiming to achieve a well-functioning *and sustainable* internal market. It is therefore necessary to establish a new programme bringing together activities financed previously under those other programmes and other relevant budget lines *that draws the lessons to be learned from existing programmes*. The programme should also include new initiatives which aim to improve the functioning of the internal market, *avoiding duplication with related Union programmes and actions*.

Amendment 6

Proposal for a regulation Recital 6

Text proposed by the Commission

(6) The development, production and dissemination of European statistics are subject to a separate European Statistical Programme established by Regulation (EU) No 99/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁴⁷. In order to provide continuity of producing and disseminating European statistics, the new programme should also include activities covered by the European Statistical Programme by providing a framework for the development, production and dissemination of European statistics. The new programme should establish the financial framework for European statistics to provide high-quality, comparable and reliable statistics **on Europe** in order to underpin the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of all Union policies.

⁴⁷ Regulation (EU) No 99/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 January 2013 on the European statistical programme 2013-17 (OJ L 39, 9.2.2013, p 12).

Amendment

(6) The development, production and dissemination of European statistics are subject to a separate European Statistical Programme established by Regulation (EU) No 99/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁴⁷. In order to provide continuity of producing and disseminating European statistics, the new programme should also include activities covered by the **existing** European Statistical Programme by providing a framework for the **collection of data, as well as for the** development, production, **the correct use, application** and dissemination of European statistics. The new programme should establish the financial framework for European statistics to provide high-quality, comparable and reliable **European** statistics, **also on matters such trade and migration**, in order to underpin the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of all Union policies **in accordance with Article 3 of the Treaty on European Union**.

⁴⁷ Regulation (EU) No 99/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 January 2013 on the European statistical programme 2013-17 (OJ L 39, 9.2.2013, p 12).

Amendment 7

Proposal for a regulation Recital 7

Text proposed by the Commission

(7) It is therefore appropriate to establish a Programme for the internal market, competitiveness of enterprises, *including* micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, and European statistics (the 'Programme'). The Programme should be established for the duration of seven years from 2021 to 2027.

Amendment

(7) It is therefore appropriate to establish ***the Single Market*** Programme for ***strengthening*** the internal market ***and improving its functioning in the fields of*** competitiveness ***and sustainability*** of enterprises, ***especially*** micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, ***standardisation, market surveillance, consumer protection, food supply chain*** and European statistics (the 'Programme'). The Programme should be established for the duration of seven years from 2021 to 2027.

Amendment 8

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 8

Text proposed by the Commission

(8) The Programme should support the design, implementation and enforcement of Union legislation underpinning the proper functioning of the internal market. The Programme should support the creation of the right conditions to empower all actors of the internal market: businesses, citizens including consumers, civil society and public authorities. To that end, the Programme should aim to ensure the competitiveness of businesses, ***notably SMEs***, but also supporting the enforcement of consumer protection and safety rules and by raising the awareness of businesses and individuals by providing them with the right tools, knowledge and competence to make informed decisions and strengthen their participation in Union's policy-making. Furthermore, the Programme should aim to enhance regulatory and administrative cooperation, notably through exchange of best practices,

Amendment

(8) The Programme should support the design, implementation and enforcement of Union legislation underpinning the proper functioning of the internal market. The Programme should support the creation of the right conditions to empower all actors of the internal market: businesses, citizens including consumers, ***and employees***, civil society and public authorities. To that end, the Programme should aim to ensure the competitiveness ***and sustainability*** of businesses, ***especially micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, including those in the tourism sector***, but also supporting the enforcement of consumer protection and safety rules ***as well as environmental and social standards***, and by raising the awareness of businesses and individuals by providing them with the right tools, ***appropriate information and assistance***, knowledge and competence to make informed decisions and strengthen their

building of knowledge and competence bases, including the use of strategic public procurement. The Programme should also aim to support the development of high-quality international standards that underpin the implementation of Union legislation. This also includes standard setting in the field of financial reporting and audit, thereby contributing to the transparency and well-functioning of the Union's capital markets and to enhancing investor protection. The Programme should support rulemaking and standard setting also by ensuring the broadest possible stakeholder involvement. The objective of the Programme should also be to support the implementation and enforcement of Union legislation providing for a high level of health for humans, animals and plants along the food chain and the improvement of the welfare of animals.

participation in Union's policy-making. Furthermore, the Programme should aim to enhance regulatory and administrative cooperation, notably through **training programmes**, exchange of best practices, building of knowledge and competence bases, including the use of strategic public procurement. The Programme should also aim to support the development of high-quality international standards that underpin the implementation of Union legislation. This also includes standard setting in the field of financial reporting and audit, thereby contributing to the transparency and well-functioning of the Union's capital markets and to enhancing investor protection. The Programme should support rulemaking and standard setting also by ensuring the broadest possible stakeholder involvement. The objective of the Programme should also be to support the implementation and enforcement of Union legislation providing for a high level of health for humans, animals and plants along the food chain and the improvement of the welfare of animals.

Amendment 9

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 9

Text proposed by the Commission

(9) A modern internal market promotes competition and benefits consumers, businesses and employees. Making better use of the ever evolving internal market in services should help European businesses create jobs and grow across borders, offer wider choice of services at better prices, and maintain high standards for consumers and workers. To achieve this, the Programme should contribute to the removal of remaining barriers, and **to** ensure **a** regulatory framework **that** can accommodate new innovative business

Amendment

(9) A modern internal market **that is based on principles of fairness, transparency and mutual trust**, promotes competition and benefits consumers, businesses and employees. Making better use of the ever evolving internal market in services should help European businesses create jobs and grow across borders, offer wider choice of services at better prices, and maintain high standards for consumers and workers. To achieve this, the Programme should contribute to **better monitoring of internal market**

models.

*developments, including of the impact of new technological development, the identification and the removal of remaining **unjustified, discriminatory and disproportionate** barriers, and ensure **that the** regulatory framework can accommodate new innovative business models, **including collaborative economy models and social entrepreneurship, while ensuring a high-level of social protection, including for entrepreneurs.***

Amendment 10

Proposal for a regulation Recital 10

Text proposed by the Commission

(10) Regulatory obstacles in the internal market have been removed for many industrial products through prevention mechanisms, the adoption of common rules and, where no such Union rules exist, through the principle of mutual recognition. In areas where no Union legislation exists, the principle of mutual recognition means that goods that are lawfully marketed in one Member State enjoy the right to free movement and can be sold in another Member State. However, inadequate application of mutual recognition makes it harder for companies to access markets in other Member States. Despite the high degree of market integration in the area of goods, this leads to lost opportunities for the economy at large. The Programme should therefore aim to improve the application of mutual recognition in the area of goods and to reduce the number of illegal and non-compliant goods entering the market.

Amendment

(10) Regulatory obstacles in the internal market have been removed for many industrial products through prevention mechanisms, the adoption of common rules **and standards**, and, where no such Union rules exist, through the principle of mutual recognition. In areas where no Union legislation exists, the principle of mutual recognition means that goods that are lawfully marketed in one Member State enjoy the right to free movement and can be sold in another Member State, ***unless the Member State concerned has grounds to oppose the marketing of the goods, provided that such a restriction is non-discriminatory, justified by legitimate public interest objectives, as set out in Article 36 of the Treaty or recognised by the case-law of the Court of Justice, and proportionate to the aim pursued.*** However, inadequate application of mutual recognition ***such as unjustified or disproportionate restrictions*** makes it harder for companies to access markets in other Member States. Despite the high degree of market integration in the area of goods, this leads to lost opportunities for the economy at large. The ***revision of***

*Regulation (EU) No xxx/ 2018 on Mutual Recognition will help to boost the economic benefits in this area. The Programme should therefore aim to improve the application of mutual recognition in the area of goods, **realising its full potential** and to reduce the number of illegal and non-compliant goods entering the market, **through targeted awareness raising and training, support for Product Contact Points and better cooperation among competent authorities for mutual recognition and by strengthening market surveillance.***

Amendment 11

Proposal for a regulation Recital 11

Text proposed by the Commission

(11) New regulatory and enforcement challenges relate to a rapidly changing environment of the digital revolution, concerning issues such as cybersecurity, internet of things or artificial intelligence. Should damage occur, stringent rules on product safety and liability are essential to ensure a policy response that allows European citizens, including consumers and businesses, to benefit from such rules. The Programme should therefore contribute to the rapid adaptation and enforcement of a Union product liability regime which fosters innovation.

Amendment

(11) New regulatory and enforcement challenges relate to a rapidly changing environment of the digital revolution, concerning issues such as cybersecurity, **data protection and privacy**, internet of things or artificial intelligence **and related ethical standards**. Should damage occur, stringent rules on product safety and **clarity with regard to** liability, **as well as strict enforcement of rules** are essential to ensure a policy response that allows European citizens, including consumers and businesses, to benefit from such rules. The Programme should therefore contribute to the rapid adaptation and **better** enforcement of a Union product liability regime which fosters innovation **whilst ensuring the safety and security of users**.

Amendment 12

Proposal for a regulation Recital 12

Text proposed by the Commission

(12) Placing on the market of products that are not compliant with Union law **puts** those who comply **at disadvantage and may endanger consumers. Many entrepreneurs disregard** the rules either **through** lack of knowledge or intentionally to gain a competitive advantage. Market surveillance authorities are often underfunded and constrained by national boundaries, while entrepreneurs trade at Union or even global level. In particular, in the case of e-commerce, market surveillance authorities have great difficulties in tracing non-compliant products imported from third countries and identifying the responsible entity within their jurisdiction. The Programme should therefore seek to strengthen product compliance by providing **the right incentives to entrepreneurs**, intensifying compliance checks **and** promoting closer cross-border cooperation among enforcement authorities. The Programme should also contribute to the consolidation of the existing framework for market surveillance activities, encourage joint actions of market surveillance authorities from different Member States, improve the exchange of information and promote convergence and closer integration of market surveillance activities.

Amendment

(12) Placing on the market of products that are not compliant with Union law **regardless of whether such products are placed on the market by traditional or electronic means and regardless of whether they are produced in the Union or enter it from third countries, puts Union citizens and consumers at risk. Economic operators selling compliant products face distorted competition from** those who **do not** comply **with** the rules either **due to** lack of knowledge or intentionally to gain a competitive advantage. Market surveillance authorities are often underfunded and constrained by national boundaries, while entrepreneurs trade at Union or even global level. In particular, in the case of e-commerce, market surveillance authorities have great difficulties in tracing non-compliant products imported from third countries and identifying the responsible entity within their jurisdiction **or conducting risk-assessments or safety tests due to the lack of physical access to products.** The Programme should therefore seek to strengthen product compliance by **strengthening market surveillance, providing clear, transparent and comprehensive rules to economic operators, raising awareness of applicable Union product safety rules, intensifying compliance checks, including through systematic use of checks on samples of products representing significant percentages of each type of products placed on the market and mystery shopping carried out by market surveillance authorities as well as by** promoting closer cross-border cooperation among enforcement authorities. The Programme should also contribute to the

consolidation of the existing framework for market surveillance activities, encourage joint actions of market surveillance authorities from different Member States, improve the exchange of information and promote convergence and closer integration of market surveillance activities, *in particular by ensuring that the new requirements introduced by the Regulation (EU) 2018/858 of the European Parliament and of the Council^{1a} are strictly enforced so as to avoid the sale of non-compliant products to European citizens. The Programme should thus strengthen the capacity of the market surveillance authorities across the Union and contribute to a greater homogeneity between Member States, equally benefitting from the Internal Market in terms of economic prosperity and sustainable growth, while addressing their specific needs in a tailored manner.*

^{1a} *Regulation (EU) 2018/858 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2018 on the approval and market surveillance of motor vehicles and their trailers, and of systems, components and separate technical units intended for such vehicles, amending Regulations (EC) No 715/2007 and (EC) No 595/2009 and repealing Directive 2007/46/EC (OJ L 151, 14.6.2018, p. 1).*

Amendment 13

Proposal for a regulation Recital 13

Text proposed by the Commission

(13) Product safety is a common concern. The conformity assessment bodies verify whether products meet the safety requirements before they are placed on the market. It is therefore of paramount

Amendment

(13) Product safety is a common concern. The conformity assessment bodies verify whether products meet the safety requirements before they are placed on the market. It is therefore of paramount

importance that the conformity assessment bodies are reliable and competent. The Union has put in place a system of accreditation of the conformity assessment bodies, verifying their competence, impartiality and independence. The main challenge is now to keep the accreditation system in line with the latest state of the art and to ensure that it is applied with the same stringency across the Union. The Programme should therefore support measures to ensure that conformity assessment bodies continue fulfilling the regulatory requirements and to enhance the European accreditation system, in particular in new policy areas, by supporting the European co-operation for Accreditation (EA) referred to in Article 14 of Regulation (EC) No 765/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁴⁸.

importance that the conformity assessment bodies are reliable and competent. The Union has put in place a system of accreditation of the conformity assessment bodies, verifying their competence, impartiality and independence. ***However, Regulation (EC) No 765/2008⁴⁸ of the European Parliament and of the Council has been implemented in many different ways at national level. Those differences concern the distribution of competences between market surveillance authorities and the internal coordination mechanisms at national level, the level of deployed financial resources dedicated to market surveillance and the market surveillance strategies and approaches, as well as the powers with regard to non-compliant products and the level of penalties for infringements, resulting in the fragmented enforcement of Union harmonisation legislation. This fragmentation has lead to market surveillance being more rigorous in some Member States than in others, potentially undermining the deterrent effect of the legislation, creating an unequal playing field among businesses in some Member States and resulting in imbalances in the level of product safety in the Union.*** The main challenge is now to keep the accreditation system in line with the latest state of the art and to ensure that it is applied with the same stringency across the Union. The Programme should therefore support measures to ensure that conformity assessment bodies continue fulfilling the regulatory requirements, ***especially through the use of third-party assessment in order to improve impartial and independent procedures***, and to enhance the European accreditation system, in particular in new policy areas, by supporting ***the uniformity of checks and penalties, as well as*** the European co-operation for Accreditation (EA) referred to in Article 14 of Regulation (EC) No 765/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council.

⁴⁸ Regulation (EC) No 765/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 July 2008 setting out the requirements for accreditation and market surveillance relating to the marketing of products and repealing Regulation (EEC) No 339/93 (OJ L 218, 13.8.2008, p. 30).

⁴⁸ Regulation (EC) No 765/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 July 2008 setting out the requirements for accreditation and market surveillance relating to the marketing of products and repealing Regulation (EEC) No 339/93 (OJ L 218, 13.8.2008, p. 30).

Amendment 14

Proposal for a regulation Recital 14

Text proposed by the Commission

(14) As consumer markets know no borders with the development of online trade and travel services, it is important to ensure that consumers residing in the Union can benefit from **adequate** protection when importing goods and services from economic operators based in third countries. The Programme should therefore allow supporting cooperation with relevant bodies located in key trading third country partners of the Union where necessary.

Amendment

(14) ***The development of e-commerce could raise certain issues regarding the protection of health and safety of end users from non-compliant products.*** As consumer markets know no borders with the development of online trade and travel services, it is important to ensure that consumers residing in the Union can benefit from ***equivalent*** protection when importing goods and services from economic operators based in third countries. The Programme should therefore allow supporting cooperation with relevant bodies located in key trading third country partners of the Union where necessary ***with regard to the exchange of information on non-compliant products, on recent scientific developments and new technologies, on emerging risks and on other aspects related to control activities.***

Amendment 15

Proposal for a regulation Recital 15

(15) Public procurement is used by public authorities to ensure value for public money spent and to contribute to a more innovative, sustainable, inclusive and competitive internal market. Directive 2014/23/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council⁴⁹, Directive 2014/24/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council⁵⁰ and Directive 2014/25/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council⁵¹ provide the legal framework for the integration and effective functioning of the public procurement markets representing 14% of Union's gross domestic product, to the benefit of public authorities, businesses as well as citizens, including consumers. The Programme should therefore support measures to ensure a wider uptake of strategic public procurement, the professionalisation of public buyers, **improved** access to procurement markets for SMEs, increase of transparency, integrity and better data, boosting the digital transformation of procurement and promotion of joint procurement, through strengthening a partnership approach with the Member States, improving data gathering and data analysis including through development of dedicated IT tools, supporting exchange of experiences and good practices, providing guidance, pursuing beneficial trade agreements, strengthening cooperation among national authorities and launching pilot projects.

(15) Public procurement is used by public authorities to ensure value for public money spent and to contribute to a more innovative, sustainable, inclusive and competitive internal market, **including, where this is in accordance with applicable Union law, by applying criteria other than simply the lowest price or cost effectiveness, taking into account, among others, qualitative, environmental, fair trade and social aspects and by facilitating the division of tenders into lots for large infrastructure.** Directive 2014/23/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council⁴⁹, Directive 2014/24/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council⁵⁰ and Directive 2014/25/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council⁵¹ provide the legal framework for the integration and effective functioning of the public procurement markets representing 14% of Union's gross domestic product, to the benefit of public authorities, businesses as well as citizens, including consumers. **Correctly implemented public procurement rules are a crucial tool for strengthening the single market and for boosting the growth of Union companies and Union jobs.** The Programme should therefore support measures to ensure a wider uptake of strategic public procurement, the professionalisation of public buyers, **to facilitate and improve access to procurement markets for SMEs and micro enterprises, in particular through advisory services and training,** increase of transparency, integrity and better data, boosting the digital transformation of procurement and promotion of joint procurement, through strengthening a partnership approach with the Member States, improving data gathering and data analysis including through development of dedicated IT tools, supporting exchange of experiences and good practices, **referencing European and**

international standards, providing guidance, pursuing beneficial trade agreements, strengthening cooperation among national authorities and launching pilot projects.

⁴⁹ Directive 2014/23/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 February 2014 on the award of concession contracts (OJ L 94, 28.3.2014, p. 1).

⁵⁰ Directive 2014/24/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 February 2014 on public procurement and repealing Directive 2004/18/EC (OJ L 94, 28.3.2014, p. 65).

⁵¹ Directive 2014/25/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 February 2014 on procurement by entities operating in the water, energy, transport and postal services sectors and repealing Directive 2004/17/EC (OJ L 94, 28.3.2014, p. 243).

⁴⁹ Directive 2014/23/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 February 2014 on the award of concession contracts (OJ L 94, 28.3.2014, p. 1).

⁵⁰ Directive 2014/24/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 February 2014 on public procurement and repealing Directive 2004/18/EC (OJ L 94, 28.3.2014, p. 65).

⁵¹ Directive 2014/25/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 February 2014 on procurement by entities operating in the water, energy, transport and postal services sectors and repealing Directive 2004/17/EC (OJ L 94, 28.3.2014, p. 243).

Amendment 16

Proposal for a regulation Recital 16

Text proposed by the Commission

(16) In order to meet the objectives of the Programme and to facilitate the lives of citizens and businesses, high-quality user-centric public services need to be put in place. This implies that public administrations will need to start working in new ways, bring down silos between the different parts of their administrations, and to engage in the co-creation of these public services with citizens and businesses. Moreover, the continuous and steady increase of cross-border activities in the internal market requires **provision** of up-to-date information on the rights of businesses and citizens, but also information

Amendment

(16) In order to meet the objectives of the Programme and to facilitate the lives of citizens and businesses, high-quality user-centric public services, ***increasingly digitally oriented and fully accessible***, need to be put in place ***and e-administration and e-government efforts further boosted while ensuring appropriate data protection and privacy***. This implies that public administrations will need to start working in new, ***more innovative*** ways, ***in order to*** bring down silos between the different parts of their administrations, and to engage in the co-creation of these public services with

explaining the administrative formalities. In addition, provision of legal advice and helping to solve problems which occur at cross national level becomes essential. Furthermore, connecting national administrations in a simple and efficient manner as well as evaluating how the internal market works on the ground is necessary. The Programme should therefore support the following existing internal market governance tools: the Your Europe Portal which should be a backbone of the upcoming Single Digital Gateway, Your Europe Advice, SOLVIT, the Internal Market Information system and the Single Market Scoreboard in order to improve citizens' daily lives and businesses' ability to trade across borders.

citizens and businesses. Moreover, the continuous and steady increase of cross-border activities in the internal market requires *the availability* of up-to-date, *accurate and easy to understand* information on the rights of businesses and citizens, but also information explaining the administrative formalities, *as well as simplifying them*. In addition, provision of legal advice and helping to solve problems which occur at cross national level becomes essential. Furthermore, connecting national administrations in a simple and efficient manner, *supporting public authorities in achieving those objectives*, as well as evaluating how the internal market works on the ground is necessary. The *existing internal market governance tools already play an important role in facilitating the achievement of those objectives. To this end, and in order to keep up with technology and market developments, as well as with new regulatory and enforcement challenges, the Programme should support the enhancement of quality, visibility and transparency and of the reliability of the internal market governance tools.* The Programme should therefore support, *amongst others* the following existing internal market governance tools: the Your Europe Portal which should be a backbone of the upcoming Single Digital Gateway, Your Europe Advice, SOLVIT, the Internal Market Information system and the Single Market Scoreboard in order to improve citizens' daily lives and businesses' ability to trade across borders.

Amendment 17

Proposal for a regulation Recital 17

Text proposed by the Commission

(17) The Programme should support the development of the Union regulatory framework in the area of company law and corporate governance, as well as contract law, with a view to make business more efficient and competitive while providing protection for stakeholders affected by company operations, and to react to emerging policy challenges. It should also ensure appropriate evaluation, implementation and enforcement of the relevant acquis, inform and assist stakeholders and promote information exchange in the area. The Programme should further support the Commission's initiatives in favour of a clear and adapted legal framework for the data economy and innovation. Those initiatives are necessary to enhance legal certainty with regard to contractual and extra contractual law, in particular with regard to liability and ethics in the context of emerging technologies, such as internet of things, artificial intelligence, robotics, 3D Printing. The Programme should aim at stimulating the development of data-driven business, as it will be decisive for the position of the Union economy in a global competition.

Amendment

(17) The Programme should support the development of the Union regulatory framework in the area of company law and corporate governance, as well as contract law, with a view to make business, ***especially SMEs***, more efficient and competitive while providing protection for stakeholders affected by company operations, and to react to emerging policy challenges. It should also ensure appropriate evaluation, implementation and enforcement of the relevant acquis, inform and assist stakeholders and promote information exchange in the area. The Programme should further support the Commission's initiatives in favour of a clear and adapted legal framework for the data economy and innovation. Those initiatives are necessary to enhance legal certainty with regard to contractual and extra contractual law, in particular with regard to liability and ethics in the context of emerging technologies, such as internet of things, artificial intelligence, robotics, 3D Printing. The Programme should aim at stimulating the development of data-driven business ***whilst ensuring a high level of privacy protection***, as it will be decisive for the position of the Union economy in a global competition.

Amendment 18

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 20

Text proposed by the Commission

(20) Considering that the ***internal market as set out in Article 3 of the Treaty on European Union*** includes a system ensuring that competition is not distorted, the Programme should support the Union's competition policy, ***networks and*** cooperation with national authorities and

Amendment

(20) Considering that the Treaty on ***the Functioning of the European Union*** includes a system ***of rules*** ensuring that competition is not distorted ***in the internal market***, the Programme should ***contribute to*** support the Union's competition policy, ***by improving and reinforcing the***

courts, as well as outreach to a wider group of stakeholders in communicating and explaining the rights, benefits and obligations of Union competition policy.

cooperation *with the European Competition Network* and with national authorities and courts, *including by way of strengthening international cooperation* as well as communicating and explaining the rights, benefits and obligations of Union competition policy. *The Programme should in particular help the Commission to enhance its analysis and assessment of market developments, also through extensive use of sector inquiries and by systematic sharing of results and best practices within the European Competition Network. This should contribute to ensuring fair competition and a level playing field, also at international level, and empowering businesses, in particular SMEs, and consumers in order to reap the benefits of the Single Market.*

Amendment 19

Proposal for a regulation Recital 21

Text proposed by the Commission

(21) The Programme in particular needs to tackle the radical implications for competition and the functioning of the internal market resulting from the ongoing transformation of the economy and business environment, in particular through the exponential growth and use of data, taking account of the increasing recourse to artificial intelligence and other IT tools and expertise by companies and their advisors. It is also essential that the Programme supports networks and *cooperation* with Member State authorities and courts, considering that undistorted competition and the functioning of the internal market depend critically on action by those entities. In view of the particular role of competition policy in preventing harm to the internal market resulting from

Amendment

(21) The Programme in particular needs to tackle the radical implications for competition and the functioning of the internal market resulting from the ongoing transformation of the economy and business environment, in particular through the exponential growth and use of data, taking account of the increasing recourse to artificial intelligence, *big data and algorithms* and other IT tools and expertise by companies and their advisors. It is also essential that the Programme supports networks and *a wider and deeper engagement* with Member State authorities and courts, considering that undistorted competition and the functioning of the internal market depend critically on action by those entities. In view of the particular role of competition policy in preventing

anticompetitive conduct beyond the Union's border, the Programme should also support cooperation with third country authorities, as appropriate. Finally, widening outreach activities is necessary in order to allow more citizens and businesses to reap the full benefits of fair competition in the internal market. Given that a number of initiatives in the Programme are new and that the competition part of the Programme is particularly affected by dynamic developments in the conditions of competition in the internal market, notably relating to Artificial Intelligence, algorithms, big data, cybersecurity and forensic technology, the pace and magnitude of which are difficult to estimate, it is anticipated that flexibility will be required to face the evolving needs under this part of the Programme.

harm to the internal market resulting from anticompetitive conduct beyond the Union's border, the Programme should also support cooperation with third country authorities, as appropriate. Finally, widening outreach activities is necessary in order to allow more citizens and businesses to reap the full benefits of fair competition in the internal market. ***In particular, it is necessary to demonstrate the tangible benefits of the Union's competition policy to the European citizens through engagement with civil society groups and relevant directly impacted stakeholders.*** Given that a number of initiatives in the Programme are new and that the competition part of the Programme is particularly affected by dynamic ***and rapid*** developments in the conditions of competition in the internal market, notably relating to ***digital developments***, Artificial Intelligence, algorithms, big data, cybersecurity and forensic technology, the pace and magnitude of which are difficult to estimate, it is anticipated that flexibility will be required to face the evolving needs under this part of the Programme.

Amendment 20

Proposal for a regulation Recital 22

Text proposed by the Commission

(22) Strengthening the competitiveness of European enterprises while reassuring an effective level playing field and an open and competitive internal market is of outmost importance. SMEs are the engine of the European economy making up 99% of all businesses in Europe, providing two thirds of jobs, and contributing substantially to the creation of new ***jobs*** with a regional and local dimension.

Amendment

(22) Strengthening the competitiveness ***and sustainability*** of European enterprises while reassuring an effective level playing field and an open and competitive internal market is of outmost importance. SMEs are the engine of the European economy making up 99% of all businesses in Europe, providing two thirds of jobs, and contributing substantially to the creation of new ***quality jobs in all sectors*** with a regional and local dimension, ***and hence social cohesion. SMEs are instrumental***

in pursuing the energy transition and contributing to the achievement of the Union's climate objectives deriving from the Paris Agreement. The Programme should therefore enhance their capacity to develop environmentally-friendly high quality products and services and support their efforts to increase resource-efficiency, in line with the 'energy efficiency first' principle. In doing so, the Programme also contributes to improve Union SMEs competitiveness on the global market.

Amendment 21

Proposal for a regulation Recital 23

Text proposed by the Commission

(23) SMEs share common challenges that do not affect larger firms to the same extent to obtain finance, to find skilled work force, to alleviate administrative burden, to take-up creativity and innovation, to access markets and foster internationalisation activities. The Programme should address such market failures proportionally, while not unduly distorting competition in the internal market.

Amendment

(23) SMEs share common challenges that do not affect larger firms to the same extent to obtain finance, to find skilled work force, to alleviate administrative burden, to take-up creativity and innovation, to access markets, and foster internationalisation activities. The Programme should address such market failures proportionally, while not unduly distorting competition in the internal market. ***The Programme should in particular create appropriate conditions to introduce technological and organisational innovation in the production processes, paying attention to specific forms of SMEs such as micro enterprises, enterprises engaged in craft activities, the self-employed, the liberal professions and social economy enterprises. Attention should also be paid to potential, new, young and female entrepreneurs, as well as to other specific target groups, such as older people, migrants and entrepreneurs belonging to socially disadvantaged or vulnerable***

groups such as persons with disabilities.

Amendment 22

Proposal for a regulation Recital 23 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(23a) The programme should support and promote a culture of innovation, developing an ecosystem capable of encouraging business start-ups and nurturing their growth, focusing on micro-enterprises and innovative SMEs able to meet the challenges of an increasingly competitive and fast-moving environment. Radically new innovation processes require the development of an open innovation model with an increase in collaborative research and the sharing of knowledge and intellectual property between different organisations. The Programme should accordingly seek to support the innovation process by incorporating new collaborative business models, focusing on networking and the sharing of knowledge and resources within inter-organisational communities.

Amendment 23

Proposal for a regulation Recital 23 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(23b) The Programme should address such market failures proportionally, paying special attention to actions that benefit directly SMEs and enterprise networks, and while not unduly distorting

Amendment 24

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 24

Text proposed by the Commission

(24) Many of the Union's competitiveness problems involve SMEs' difficulties in obtaining access to finance because they struggle to demonstrate their credit-worthiness and have insufficient collateral. Additional financing challenges arise from SMEs' need to stay competitive by engaging e.g. in digitization, internationalization and innovation activities and skilling up their workforce. Limited access to finance has a negative effect on businesses creation, growth and survival rates, as well as on the readiness of new entrepreneurs to take over viable companies in the context of a business succession.

Amendment

(24) Many of the Union's competitiveness problems involve SMEs' difficulties in obtaining access to finance because they ***lack information***, struggle to demonstrate their credit-worthiness and have insufficient collateral ***or simply due to low awareness of existing mechanism to support their activities at Union, national or local level***. Additional financing challenges arise from ***the smaller size of micro-enterprises and*** SMEs' need to stay competitive by engaging e.g. in digitization, internationalization and innovation activities and skilling up their workforce. Limited access to finance has a negative effect on businesses creation, growth and survival rates, as well as on the readiness of new entrepreneurs to take over viable companies in the context of a business succession.

Amendment 25

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 25

Text proposed by the Commission

(25) To overcome these market failures and to ensure that SMEs continue to play their role as the foundation for the Union economy's competitiveness, small and medium sized enterprises need extra support through debt and equity instruments to be established under the

Amendment

(25) To overcome these market failures and to ensure that SMEs continue to play their role as the foundation for the Union economy's competitiveness, ***and as a driver for a sustainable economy***, small and medium sized enterprises need extra support through debt and equity

SME window of the InvestEU Fund established by Regulation [...] of the European Parliament and of the Council⁵². The loan guarantee facility put in place under Regulation (EU) No 1287/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁵³ has a proven added value and is expected to bring a positive contribution to at least 500 000 SMEs; a successor will be established under the SME window of the InvestEU Fund.

instruments to be established under the SME window of the InvestEU Fund established by Regulation [...] of the European Parliament and of the Council⁵². The loan guarantee facility put in place under ***former COSME programme established by*** Regulation (EU) No 1287/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁵³ has a proven added value and is expected to bring a positive contribution to at least 500 000 SMEs; a successor will be established under the SME window of the InvestEU Fund. ***More attention should be paid to better communication and public campaigns in order to increase awareness to potential beneficiaries of the availability of the Programme for SMEs. To raise the awareness of Union's actions supporting SMEs, actions that are wholly or partially funded by this Programme, including intermediaries, should incorporate the European emblem (flag) associated to a sentence acknowledging the support received by this Programme.***

⁵² COM(2018)0439

⁵³ Regulation (EU) No 1287/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 establishing a Programme for the Competitiveness of Enterprises and small and medium-sized enterprises (COSME) (2014 - 2020) and repealing Decision No 1639/2006/EC (OJ L 347 of 20.12.2013, p. 33).

⁵² COM(2018)0439

⁵³ Regulation (EU) No 1287/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 establishing a Programme for the Competitiveness of Enterprises and small and medium-sized enterprises (COSME) (2014 - 2020) and repealing Decision No 1639/2006/EC (OJ L 347 of 20.12.2013, p. 33).

Amendment 26

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 26

Text proposed by the Commission

(26) The policy objectives of this

Amendment

(26) The policy objectives of this

Programme will be also addressed through financial instruments and budgetary guarantee under the SME window of the InvestEU Fund. Financial support should be used to address market failures or sub-optimal investment situations, in a proportionate manner and actions should not duplicate or crowd out private financing or distort competition in the internal market. Actions should have a clear European added value.

Programme will be also addressed through financial instruments and budgetary guarantee under the SME window of the InvestEU Fund. ***The SME window of the InvestEU Fund should have a central overarching point providing information about the Programme in each Member State, in order to increase the accessibility and awareness of the funds for SMEs.*** Financial support should be used to address market failures or sub-optimal investment situations, in a proportionate manner and actions should not duplicate or crowd out private financing or distort competition in the internal market, ***and should clearly offer additionality and enhancing synergies with other European programmes.*** Actions should have a clear European added value.

Amendment 27

Proposal for a regulation Recital 26 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(26a) The actions supported by the InvestEU Fund through the EU compartment or the Member States compartment should not duplicate or replace private funding, or distort competition in the internal market, but, with reference to the local public and private guarantee schemes already operating, should facilitate their integration with such schemes, the overriding objective being to enhance and extend the actual benefits to final recipients, who are SMEs within the meaning of Recommendation 2003/361/EC) in order to achieve genuine additionality of the measures.

Amendment 28

Proposal for a regulation Recital 26 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(26b) Besides access to finance also access to skills is crucial, including managerial skills and knowledge are critical factors for SMEs to access existing funds, innovate, compete and grow. The delivery of financial instruments as envisaged under InvestEU Fund should therefore be accompanied by the development of appropriate mentoring, coaching schemes and by the delivery of knowledge-based business services.

Amendment 29

Proposal for a regulation Recital 27

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(27) The Programme should provide effective support for SMEs throughout their life-cycle. It should build on the unique knowledge and expertise developed with regard to SMEs and **industrial** sectors and on a long experience in working with European, national and regional stakeholders. This support should build on the **successful** experience of the Enterprise Europe Network as a one-stop-shop to improve SMEs competitiveness and develop their business in the Single Market and beyond. The Network plans to continue delivering services on behalf of other Union programmes, notably for the Horizon2020 programme, using the financial resources of these programmes. Also the mentoring scheme for new

(27) The Programme should provide effective support for SMEs throughout their life-cycle, **providing assistance ranging from project preparation through to commercialisation and access to the market, and encouraging the creation of business enterprise networks.** It should build on the unique knowledge and expertise developed with regard to SMEs and **economic and entrepreneurial** sectors and on a long experience in working with European, national and regional stakeholders. This support should build on the experience of the Enterprise Europe Network as a one-stop-shop to improve SMEs competitiveness and develop their business in the Single Market and beyond. The Network plans to continue delivering

entrepreneurs should remain the tool to enable new or aspiring entrepreneurs to gain business experience by matching with an experienced entrepreneur from another country and thus allow strengthening entrepreneurial talents. The Programme should **further strive to** grow and extend its geographical coverage and thus offer wider range of matching possibilities to entrepreneurs in complementarity with other Union initiatives where relevant.

services on behalf of other Union programmes, notably for the Horizon2020 programme, using the financial resources of these programmes. ***It should also support enhanced participation of SMEs representatives' organisation in the development of Single Market Policy initiative, such as public procurement, standardisation processes and intellectual property regimes. The Network should also increase the number of actions, providing more targeted advice to SMEs, in drafting projects and supporting networking and technological and organisational transition. The Network should also improve cooperation and liaison with other Advisory hubs established in the Digital programme and InvestEU Fund as regards access to finance. The actions for SMEs in the Network should also aim to provide high quality services across Europe, paying particular attention to areas of activities and geographical parts of the Union where the Networks and intermediary stakeholders do not meet expected results.*** Also the **successful** mentoring scheme for new entrepreneurs - ***Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs*** - should remain the tool to enable new or aspiring entrepreneurs to gain business **and managerial** experience by matching with an experienced entrepreneur from another country and thus allow strengthening entrepreneurial talents. The Programme should grow and extend its geographical coverage and thus offer wider range of matching possibilities to entrepreneurs in complementarity with other Union initiatives where relevant. ***In order to increase the value added by the promotion of entrepreneurship initiatives, special attention should be paid to micro-enterprises and to those that have benefited the least from the existing programme, and where the culture of entrepreneurship remains at a very basic level, and faces more barriers. Every effort should be made to achieve reasonably geographically balanced distribution of the funds.***

Amendment 30

Proposal for a regulation Recital 27 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(27a) More effort should be made to reduce the administrative burden and to increase the accessibility of the programmes in order to reduce costs of SMEs and microenterprises due to a complicated application process and participation requirements. Member States should also consider establishing a single information point for undertakings interested in using Union's funds functioning as a one-stop-shop. Evaluation procedure should be as simple and fast as possible in order to allow for timely use of the benefits the Programme offers.

Amendment 31

Proposal for a regulation Recital 28

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(28) Clusters are a strategic tool for supporting the competitiveness and scaling-up of SMEs as they offer favourable business environments. Joint Cluster Initiatives should achieve critical mass to accelerate the growth of SMEs. By connecting specialised eco-systems, clusters create new business opportunities for SMEs and integrate them better in European and global strategic value chains. Support should be provided for the development of transnational partnership strategies and the implementation of joint

(28) Clusters are a strategic tool for supporting the competitiveness and scaling-up of SMEs as they offer favourable business environments, ***increase sustainable development of industry and services and strengthen the economic development of the regions through the creation of quality jobs***. Joint Cluster Initiatives should achieve critical mass to accelerate the growth of SMEs. By connecting specialised eco-systems, clusters create new business opportunities for SMEs and integrate them better in

activities, supported by the European Cluster Collaboration Platform. Sustainable partnering should be encouraged with continuation funding if performance and participation milestones are reached. Direct support to SMEs should be channelled through cluster organisations for the following: uptake of advanced technologies, new business models, **low-carbon and resource-efficient** solutions, creativity and design, skills upgrading, talent attraction, entrepreneurship acceleration, and internationalisation. Other specialised SME support actors should be associated to facilitate industrial transformation and implementations of smart specialisation strategies. The Programme should thus contribute to **growth** and build linkages with the Union's (digital) innovation hubs and investments made under Cohesion Policy and Horizon Europe. Synergies with the Erasmus programme can also be explored.

European and global strategic value chains. Support should be provided for the development of transnational partnership strategies and the implementation of joint activities, supported by the European Cluster Collaboration Platform. Sustainable partnering should be encouraged with continuation funding if performance and participation milestones are reached. Direct support to SMEs should be **channelled** through cluster organisations for the following: uptake of advanced technologies, new business models, solutions, creativity and design, skills upgrading, talent attraction, entrepreneurship acceleration, and internationalisation. Other specialised SME support actors should be associated to facilitate industrial transformation and implementations of smart specialisation strategies. The Programme should thus contribute to **sustainable economic development** and build linkages with the Union's (digital) innovation hubs and investments made under Cohesion Policy and Horizon Europe. Synergies with the Erasmus programme can also be explored.

Amendment 32

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 28 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(28a) The Programme could help build up and/or improve the relationship between micro-enterprises and SMEs and universities, research centres and other institutions involved in knowledge creation and dissemination. This relationship could help improve firms' abilities to tackle the strategic challenges posed by the new international context.

Amendment 33

Proposal for a regulation Recital 28 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(28b) SMEs, owing to their smaller size, face specific obstacles to growth and have mayor difficulties in growing and scaling up some of their business activities. The Union has been providing support to scale up activities focusing on innovation on research mainly through the SME Instrument and the recently European Innovation Council pilot within the Horizon 2020 programme. Based on the working methods and experiences of the SME Instrument, the Single Market Programme should also provide support for scale-up activities by SMEs complimentary to the new EIC with its specific focus on break-through innovation under Horizon Europe. Scale up actions for SMEs under this programme should focus for instance in helping SMEs to scale up through commercialisation, internationalisation and on market driven-opportunities.

Amendment 34

Proposal for a regulation Recital 29

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(29) Creativity and innovation are crucial for the competitiveness of the Union's industrial value chains. They represent catalysts for **industrial** modernisation and contribute to smart, inclusive sustainable growth. However, uptake by SMEs is still lagging behind. The Programme should therefore support targeted actions, networks and partnerships for creativity-

(29) Creativity and innovation, **technological and organisational transformation, enhanced sustainability in terms of production processes, in particular resource and energy efficiency,** are crucial for the competitiveness of the Union's industrial value chains. They represent catalysts for **the** modernisation **of the business and industry sectors** and

driven innovation throughout the industrial value chain.

contribute to smart, inclusive sustainable growth. However, uptake by SMEs is still lagging behind. The Programme should therefore support targeted actions, networks and partnerships for creativity-driven innovation throughout the industrial value chain.

Amendment 35

Proposal for a regulation Recital 29 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(29a) Recognising that the SME Instrument under Horizon 2020 has been extremely successful for entrepreneurs through both phase1 and phase2 grants in advancing and their new business idea and testing and developing a prototype. While the selection process is already very rigorous, still many very good projects cannot be financed because of limited financial resources. The implementation in the frame of the Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (EASME) has been working very efficiently. While the focus of that programme is on high-tech projects, this Program should extend the methodology to any type of scale-up SMEs.

Amendment 36

Proposal for a regulation Recital 29 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(29b) The actions for SMEs should also focus in sectors characterised by a significant growth and social potential

and with a high proportion of SMEs. Tourism is a singular sector of the Union Economy which contributes substantially to the Union's GDP and is run mainly by SMEs. The Union should continue and increase actions supporting the specificities of this sector.

Amendment 37

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 30

Text proposed by the Commission

(30) European standards play an important role in the internal market. They are of vital interest for the competitiveness of undertakings, and especially SMEs. They are also a crucial tool to support Union legislation and policies in a number of key areas such as energy, climate change, information and communication technology, sustainable use of resources, innovation, product safety, consumer protection, worker's safety and working conditions and ageing population, thus positively contributing to the society as a whole.

Amendment

(30) European standards play an important role in the internal market. They are of vital interest for the competitiveness of undertakings, and especially SMEs. They are also a crucial tool to support Union legislation and policies in a number of key areas such as energy **transition**, climate change **and environmental protection**, information and communication technology, sustainable use **and recycling** of resources, innovation, product safety, consumer protection, worker's safety and working conditions and ageing population, thus positively contributing to the society as a whole. ***However, experience has shown that the speed and timeliness of the elaboration of standards needs to be improved and more efforts need to be made to better involve all relevant stakeholders, including those representing consumers.***

Amendment 38

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 32

Text proposed by the Commission

(32) A well-functioning common financial reporting framework is essential for the internal market, for the effective functioning of the **capital** markets and for the realisation of the integrated market for financial services in the context of the Capital Markets Union.

Amendment

(32) A well-functioning common financial reporting framework is essential for the internal market, for the effective functioning of the **financial** markets and for the realisation of the integrated market for financial services in the context of the **Banking Union and the** Capital Markets Union.

Amendment 39

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 36

Text proposed by the Commission

(36) The Union contributes to ensuring a high level of consumer protection, empowering consumers and putting them at the heart of the internal market by supporting and complementing Member States' policies in seeking to ensure that citizens when acting as consumers can fully reap the benefits of the internal market and that, in so doing, their safety and legal and economic interests are properly protected by means of concrete actions. The Union has also to ensure that consumer and product safety laws are properly and equally enforced on the ground and that businesses enjoy a level playing field with fair competition in the internal market. Moreover, it is necessary to empower, encourage and assist consumers in making sustainable choices, thus contributing to a sustainable, energy and resource efficient and circular economy.

Amendment

(36) The Union contributes to ensuring a high level of consumer protection, empowering consumers and putting them at the heart of the internal market by supporting and complementing Member States' policies in seeking to ensure that citizens when acting as consumers can fully reap the benefits of the internal market and that, in so doing, their safety and legal and economic interests are properly protected by means of concrete actions. The Union has also to ensure that consumer and product safety laws are properly and equally enforced on the ground and that businesses enjoy a level playing field with fair competition in the internal market. Moreover, it is necessary to empower, encourage and assist consumers in making sustainable **and informed** choices, thus contributing to a sustainable, energy and resource efficient and circular economy.

Amendment 40

Proposal for a regulation Recital 37

Text proposed by the Commission

(37) The Programme should aim to raise the awareness of consumers, businesses, civil society and authorities on Union consumer and safety laws and to empower consumers and their representative organisations at national level and at the Union level notably by supporting the Bureau Européen des Unions de Consommateurs (BEUC) which is the long established and recognised NGO representing consumer interests in relation to all relevant Union policies, and the European Association for the Co-ordination of Consumer Representation in Standardisation (ANEC) which represents consumers interest in relation to standardisation issues. In doing so, particular attention should be given to new market needs regarding the promotion of sustainable consumption and ***the prevention*** of vulnerabilities as well as challenges created by the digitisation of the economy or the development of new consumption patterns and business models. The Programme should support the development of relevant information on markets, policy challenges, emerging issues and behaviours, and the publication of the Union consumer scoreboards.

Amendment

(37) The Programme should aim to raise the awareness of consumers, businesses, civil society and authorities on Union consumer and safety laws and to empower consumers and their representative organisations at national level and at the Union level notably by supporting the Bureau Européen des Unions de Consommateurs (BEUC) which is the long established and recognised NGO representing consumer interests in relation to all relevant Union policies, and the European Association for the Co-ordination of Consumer Representation in Standardisation (ANEC) which represents consumers interest in relation to standardisation issues. In doing so, particular attention should be given to new market needs regarding the promotion of sustainable consumption and ***in particular to actions to tackle the issue of planned obsolescence of products and to prevent*** of vulnerabilities as well as challenges created by the digitisation of the economy, ***connected products, internet of things, artificial intelligence and use of algorithms*** or the development of new consumption patterns and business models, ***such as the collaborative economy and social entrepreneurship***. The Programme should support the development of relevant information on markets, ***including actions aiming at improving product traceability along the supply chain, quality standards across the Union, and addressing the issue of the dual quality of products***, policy challenges, emerging issues and behaviours, and the publication of the Union consumer scoreboards.

Amendment 41

Proposal for a regulation Recital 38

Text proposed by the Commission

(38) The Programme should support national competent authorities, including those responsible for monitoring product safety, who cooperate notably via the Union's rapid alert system for dangerous products. It should also support the enforcement of Directive 2001/95/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council⁵⁸ and Regulation (EC) No 765/2008 regarding consumer protection and product safety, and the Consumer Protection Cooperation network and international cooperation between the relevant authorities in third countries and in the Union. The Programme should also aim to ensure access for all consumers and traders to quality out of court dispute resolution and online dispute resolution and information on redress *possibilities*.

⁵⁸ Directive 2001/95/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 3 December 2001 on general product safety (OJ L 11, 15.1.2002, p. 4).

Amendment

(38) The Programme should support national competent authorities, including those responsible for monitoring product safety, who cooperate notably via the Union's rapid alert system for dangerous products. It should also support the enforcement of Directive 2001/95/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council⁵⁸ and Regulation (EC) No 765/2008 regarding consumer protection and product safety, and the Consumer Protection Cooperation network and international cooperation between the relevant authorities in third countries and in the Union. The Programme should also aim to ensure access for all consumers and traders to quality out of court dispute resolution and online dispute resolution and information on *the process for participating in actions seeking redress, at the lowest cost*.

⁵⁸ Directive 2001/95/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 3 December 2001 on general product safety (OJ L 11, 15.1.2002, p. 4).

Amendment 42

Proposal for a regulation Recital 39

Text proposed by the Commission

(39) The European Consumer Centres Network *is assisting* consumers to obtain the benefit of their Union consumer rights when they purchase goods and services

Amendment

(39) The *Programme should also support a* European Consumer Centres Network *which assists* consumers to obtain the benefit of their Union consumer rights

cross border in the Internal Market and EEA, either on-line or when travelling. The 30 centres strong network, jointly funded by the Union consumer programmes since more than 10 years has proven its added value to strengthen consumers and traders trust in the Internal Market. It deals with more than 100 000 consumers' requests per year and reaches millions of citizens via its press and online information activities. It is one of the most valued citizens' assistance network of the Union and most of its centres host contact points for internal market law, such as the Directive 2006/123/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council⁵⁹ and its evaluation stresses the importance to continue its operation. The network also intends to develop reciprocity arrangements with similar bodies in third countries.

when they purchase goods and services cross border in the Internal Market and EEA, either on-line or when travelling. The 30 centres strong network, jointly funded by the Union consumer programmes since more than 10 years has proven its added value to strengthen consumers and traders trust in the Internal Market. It deals with more than 100 000 consumers' requests per year and reaches millions of citizens via its press and online information activities. It is one of the most valued citizens' assistance network of the Union and most of its centres host contact points for internal market law, such as the Directive 2006/123/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council⁵⁹ and its evaluation stresses the importance to continue its operation. ***European Consumer Centres Network can be also an important source of information about challenges and problems that consumers encounter at local level, which are relevant for Union policy-making and for the protection of the interests of consumers. Therefore, the Programme should allow for the building and enhancing of synergies between consumer representation at local and Union level in order to strengthen consumer advocacy.*** The network also intends to develop reciprocity arrangements with similar bodies in third countries.

⁵⁹ Directive 2006/123/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 December 2006 on services in the internal market (OJ L 376, 27.12.2006, p. 36).

⁵⁹ Directive 2006/123/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 December 2006 on services in the internal market (OJ L 376, 27.12.2006, p. 36).

Amendment 43

Proposal for a regulation Recital 40

Text proposed by the Commission

(40) The fitness check of Union consumer and marketing law carried out by the Commission in May 2017 exposed the need to better enforce rules and facilitate redress when consumers have been harmed by breaches to consumer laws. As a result the Commission adopted a "New Deal for Consumers" in April 2018 to ensure, inter alia, the equal treatment of consumers across the internal market in relation to dual quality standards, stronger enforcement capacities of Member States, enhanced product safety, increased international cooperation and new possibilities for redress notably through representative actions by qualified entities. The Programme should aim to support consumer policy with awareness raising and knowledge building, capacity building and exchange of best practices of the consumer organisations and consumer protection authorities, networking and development of market intelligence, strengthening the evidence base on the functioning of the internal market for consumers, IT systems and communication tools, inter alia.

Amendment

(40) The fitness check of Union consumer and marketing law carried out by the Commission in May 2017 exposed the need to better enforce rules and facilitate redress when consumers have been harmed by breaches to consumer laws. As a result the Commission adopted a "New Deal for Consumers" in April 2018 to ensure, inter alia, the equal treatment of consumers across the internal market in relation to ***cross-border cases, such as selling of non-compliant products in the motor vehicles sector, dual quality standards of products or the problems of passengers stranded as a result of the cancellation of a large number of flights***, stronger enforcement capacities of Member States, enhanced product safety, increased international cooperation and new possibilities for redress notably through representative actions by qualified entities. The Programme should aim to support consumer policy with awareness raising and knowledge building, capacity building and exchange of best practices of the consumer organisations and consumer protection authorities, networking and development of market intelligence, strengthening the evidence base on the functioning of the internal market for consumers, IT systems and communication tools, inter alia.

Amendment 44

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 41

Text proposed by the Commission

(41) Citizens are particularly affected by the functioning of financial ***services*** markets. These are a key component of the internal market and require a solid framework for regulation and supervision

Amendment

(41) Citizens are particularly affected by the functioning of financial markets ***and should, therefore, be further informed on pertinent rights, risks and benefits***. These are a key component of the internal market

which ensures not only financial stability and a sustainable economy, but also provides a high level of protection to consumers and other financial services end users, including retail investors, savers, insurance policyholders, pension fund members and beneficiaries, individual shareholders, borrowers and SMEs. ***It is important*** to enhance their capacity to participate in policy making ***for*** the financial ***sector***.

and require a solid framework for regulation and supervision which ensures not only financial stability and a sustainable economy, but also provides a high level of protection to consumers and other financial services end users, including retail investors, savers, insurance policyholders, pension fund members and beneficiaries, individual shareholders, borrowers and SMEs. ***The Programme should contribute*** to enhance their capacity to participate in policy making, ***also through production and dissemination of clear, complete and user-friendly information about products commercialised in the financial markets.***

Amendment 45

Proposal for a regulation Recital 42

Text proposed by the Commission

(42) The Programme should therefore continue to support the specific activities covered by the 2017-2020 Capacity-Building Programme enhancing the involvement of consumers and other financial services end-users in Union policy-making, as set out in Regulation (EU) 2017/826 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁶⁰ which continued the pilot programme and preparatory action of the years 2012-2017. This is necessary in order to provide policy makers with views from stakeholders other than financial sector professionals and ensure a better representation of the interests of consumers and other financial services end-users. This should ***result in better*** financial services policies, notably thanks to a better public understanding of the issues at stake in financial regulation and enhanced financial literacy.

Amendment

(42) The Programme should therefore continue to support the specific activities covered by the 2017-2020 Capacity-Building Programme enhancing the involvement of consumers and other financial services end-users in Union policy-making, as set out in Regulation (EU) 2017/826 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁶⁰ which continued the pilot programme and preparatory action of the years 2012-2017. This is necessary in order to provide policy makers with views from stakeholders other than financial sector professionals and ensure a better representation of the interests of consumers and other financial services end-users. ***The Programme should continuously develop its methodology and best practices on how to increase the engagement of consumers and financial-services end-users in order to identify issues relevant for Union policy-making and ensuring the interests of consumers in the area of financial***

*services. This should **improve** financial services policies, notably thanks to a better public understanding of the issues at stake in financial regulation and enhanced financial literacy. **The public resources of this Programme should focus on what is essential for the final users and avoid any form of direct or indirect financial support to commercial activities proposed by private financial operators.***

⁶⁰ Regulation (EU) 2017/826 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2017 on establishing a Union programme to support specific activities enhancing the involvement of consumers and other financial services end-users in Union policy-making in the area of financial services for the period 2017-2020 (OJ L 129, 19.5.2017, p.17).

⁶⁰ Regulation (EU) 2017/826 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2017 on establishing a Union programme to support specific activities enhancing the involvement of consumers and other financial services end-users in Union policy-making in the area of financial services for the period 2017-2020 (OJ L 129, 19.5.2017, p.17).

Amendment 46

Proposal for a regulation Recital 43

Text proposed by the Commission

(43) In the context of a pilot project, between 2012 and 2013, and of a preparatory action, between 2014 and 2016, the Commission awarded grants to two organisations following an annual open call for proposals. The two organisations are Finance Watch, set up with Union grants in 2011 as an international non-profit association under Belgian law, and Better Finance, which is the product of successive re-organisations and rebranding of pre-existing European federations and shareholders since 2009. The Capacity-Building Programme established under Regulation (EU) 2017/826, identifies these same two organisations as sole beneficiaries. It is therefore necessary to continue to co-

Amendment

(43) In the context of a pilot project, between 2012 and 2013, and of a preparatory action, between 2014 and 2016, the Commission awarded grants to two organisations following an annual open call for proposals. The two organisations are Finance Watch, set up with Union grants in 2011 as an international non-profit association under Belgian law, and Better Finance, which is the product of successive re-organisations and rebranding of pre-existing European federations and shareholders since 2009. The Capacity-Building Programme established under Regulation (EU) 2017/826, identifies these same two organisations as sole beneficiaries. It is therefore necessary to continue to co-

finance these organisations in the context of the Programme. However, this financing should be subject to review.

finance these organisations in the context of the Programme. However, this financing should be subject to review. ***In this respect, it should be recalled that in the event that the Capacity-Building Programme and corresponding funding are extended beyond 2020 and other potential beneficiaries emerge, the call for applicants should be open to any other organisations that fulfil the criteria, and contribute to the objectives, of the Programme and this in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2017/826.***

Amendment 47

Proposal for a regulation Recital 44

Text proposed by the Commission

(44) A high level of health protection through the food supply chain is necessary to allow the internal market to operate efficiently. A safe and sustainable food supply chain is a prerequisite for society and for the internal market. Cross border health crises and food scares disrupt the functioning of the internal market by limiting the movements of persons and goods and disrupting production.

Amendment

(44) A high level of health protection through the food ***and feed*** supply chain is necessary ***to protect consumers as well as*** to allow the internal market to operate efficiently ***and smoothly***. A safe and sustainable ***agricultural and*** food supply chain is a prerequisite for society and for the internal market. ***As demonstrated by recent incidents such as the fipronil egg contamination in 2017 and the horse meat scandal in 2013, cross border health crises, such as avian influenza or African swine fever and food scares disrupt the functioning of the internal market by limiting the movements of persons and goods and disrupting production. Preventing cross border health crises and food scares is of utmost importance. Therefore, the Programme should support concrete actions, such as establishing emergency measures in the event of crisis situations and unforeseeable events affecting animal and plant health, creating a mechanism for direct access to the emergency aid reserve in order to deal with these emergency situations more***

promptly, effectively and efficiently.

Amendment 48

Proposal for a regulation Recital 45

Text proposed by the Commission

(45) The general objective of Union law in the food chain area is to **contribute to** a high level of health for humans, animals and plants along the food chain, to support the improvement of the welfare of animals, to contribute to a high level of protection and information for consumers and a high level of protection of the environment, including the preservation of biodiversity, while improving the sustainability of European food and feed productions, increasing quality standards across the Union, enhancing the competitiveness of the Union food and feed industry and favouring the creation of jobs.

Amendment

(45) The general objective of Union law in the food chain area is to **guarantee** a high level of health for humans, animals and plants along the food chain, to support the improvement of the welfare of animals, to contribute to a high level of protection and information for consumers and a high level of protection of the environment, including the preservation of biodiversity, while improving the sustainability of European food and feed productions, **cutting food waste**, increasing **the** quality standards **of products** across the Union, enhancing the competitiveness of the Union food and feed industry and favouring the creation of jobs.

Amendment 49

Proposal for a regulation Recital 46

Text proposed by the Commission

(46) Considering the specific nature of the actions concerning a high level of health for humans, animals and plants along the food chain special eligibility criteria concerning provision of grants and use of public procurement need to be provided in this Regulation. In particular, by way of derogation from Regulation (EU, Euratom) of the European Parliament and of the Council⁶¹ (the ‘Financial Regulation’), as an exception to the principle of non-retroactivity, the costs for the emergency measures, due to their urgent and unforeseeable nature, should be eligible

Amendment

(46) Considering the specific nature of the actions concerning a high level of health for humans, animals and plants along the food chain special eligibility criteria concerning provision of grants and use of public procurement need to be provided in this Regulation. In particular, by way of derogation from Regulation (EU, Euratom) **2018/1046** of the European Parliament and of the Council⁶¹ (the ‘Financial Regulation’), as an exception to the principle of non-retroactivity, the costs for the emergency measures, due to their urgent and unforeseeable nature, should be

and include also costs incurred as a result of a suspected occurrence of a disease or pest provided that that occurrence is subsequently confirmed and notified to the Commission. The corresponding budgetary commitments and the payment of eligible expenditure should be made by the Commission, after signature of the legal commitments and after assessment of the payment applications submitted by the Member States. Costs should also be eligible for protection measures taken in the case of a direct threat to the status of health in the Union as a result of the occurrence or development, in the territory of a third country, a Member State or overseas countries and territories, of certain animal diseases and zoonoses as well as in respect of protection measures, or other relevant activities, taken in support of the health status of plants in the Union.

eligible and include also costs incurred as a result of a suspected occurrence of a disease or pest provided that that occurrence is subsequently confirmed and notified to the Commission. The corresponding budgetary commitments and the payment of eligible expenditure should be made by the Commission, after signature of the legal commitments and after assessment of the payment applications submitted by the Member States. Costs should also be eligible for protection measures taken in the case of a direct threat to the status of health in the Union as a result of the occurrence or development, in the territory of a third country, a Member State or overseas countries and territories, of certain animal diseases and zoonoses as well as in respect of protection measures, or other relevant activities, taken in support of the health status of plants in the Union.

⁶¹ *[to add]*

⁶¹ *Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 July 2018 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, amending Regulations (EU) No 1296/2013, (EU) No 1301/2013, (EU) No 1303/2013, (EU) No 1304/2013, (EU) No 1309/2013, (EU) No 1316/2013, (EU) No 223/2014, (EU) No 283/2014, and Decision No 541/2014/EU and repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 (OJ L 193, 30.7.2018, p. 1).*

Amendment 50

Proposal for a regulation Recital 47

Text proposed by the Commission

(47) Official controls carried out by the Member States are an essential tool for verifying and monitoring that relevant

Amendment

(47) ***In view of the fact the food chain is increasingly globalised,*** official controls carried out by the Member States are an

Union requirements are being implemented, complied with and enforced. The effectiveness and efficiency of official control systems is vital for maintaining a high level of safety for humans, animals and plants along the food chain whilst ensuring a high level of protection of the environment and of animal welfare. Union financial support should be made available for such control measures. In particular, a financial contribution should be available to Union reference laboratories in order to help them bear the costs arising from the implementation of work programmes approved by the Commission. Moreover, since the effectiveness of official controls also depends on the availability to the control authorities of well trained staff with an appropriate knowledge of Union law, the Union should be able to contribute to their training and relevant exchange programmes organised by competent authorities.

essential tool for verifying and monitoring that relevant Union requirements are being implemented, complied with and enforced, ***especially as regards products imported from third countries***. The effectiveness and efficiency of official control systems is vital for maintaining a high level of safety for humans, animals and plants along the food chain, ***as well as consumer confidence***, whilst ensuring a high level of protection of the environment and of animal welfare. Union financial support should be made available for such control measures. In particular, a financial contribution should be available to Union reference laboratories in order to help them bear the costs arising from the implementation of work programmes approved by the Commission. Moreover, since the effectiveness of official controls also depends on the availability to the control authorities of well trained staff with an appropriate knowledge of Union law, the Union should be able to contribute to their training and relevant exchange programmes organised by competent authorities.

Amendment 51

Proposal for a regulation Recital 51

Text proposed by the Commission

(51) The Programme has been submitted for prior examination to the European Statistical System Committee in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 223/2009.

Amendment

(51) The Programme has been submitted for prior examination to the European Statistical System Committee, in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 223/2009, ***and should be implemented by ensuring effective parliamentary scrutiny.***

Amendment 52

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 52

Text proposed by the Commission

(52) The Union and Member States are committed to ***the implementation of*** the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. By contributing to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda, the Union and Member States will foster a stronger, more sustainable, inclusive, secure and prosperous Europe. The Programme should contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, including by balancing the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development.

Amendment

(52) The Union and Member States are committed to ***deliver on in being a frontrunner in implementing*** the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. By contributing to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda, the Union and Member States will foster a stronger, more sustainable, inclusive, secure and prosperous Europe. The Programme should contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, including by balancing the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development, ***providing to that end clear and visible commitment in its MFF regulation, and mainstreaming the Sustainable Development Goals, as requested by the European Parliament resolutions of the 14 March and 30 May 2018 on the 2021-2027 MFF.***

Amendment 53

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 58

Text proposed by the Commission

(58) The actions implemented under the predecessor programmes and budget lines have proven to be adequate and should be retained. The new actions introduced under the Programme aim to reinforce in particular the well-functioning internal market. In order to provide more simplicity and flexibility in the execution of the Programme and thereby to better deliver on its objectives, the actions should be defined only in terms of overall, generic categories. Lists of indicative activities concerning specific objectives in the area of competitiveness, or specific activities

Amendment

(58) The actions implemented under the predecessor programmes and budget lines have proven to be adequate and should be retained. The new actions introduced under the Programme aim to reinforce in particular the well-functioning internal market. In order to provide more simplicity and flexibility in the execution of the Programme and thereby to better deliver on its objectives, the actions should be defined only in terms of overall, generic categories. Lists of indicative activities concerning specific objectives in the area of competitiveness, ***consumer protection***, or

stemming from regulatory requirements, like in the area of standardisation, food chain regulation and European statistics should also be included in the Programme.

specific activities stemming from regulatory requirements, like in the area of standardisation, **market surveillance**, food chain regulation and European statistics should also be included in the Programme.

Amendment 54

Proposal for a regulation Recital 60

Text proposed by the Commission

(60) Considering the increasing interconnectivity of the world economy, the Programme should continue to provide the possibility of involving external experts, such as officials of third countries, representatives of international organisations or economic operators in certain activities.

Amendment

(60) Considering the increasing interconnectivity of the world **economy, including the digital** economy, the Programme should continue to provide the possibility of involving external experts, such as officials of third countries, representatives of international organisations or economic operators in certain activities.

Amendment 55

Proposal for a regulation Recital 64

Text proposed by the Commission

(64) ***The Programme should promote synergies, while avoiding duplication with related Union programmes and actions.*** The actions under this Programme should be complementary to those of the Customs and Fiscalis Programmes established by Regulation (EU) [...] of the European Parliament and of the Council⁶⁷ and Regulation (EU) [...] of the European Parliament and of the Council⁶⁸ which also aim at supporting and improving the functioning of the internal market.

Amendment

(64) The actions under this Programme should be complementary to those of the Customs and Fiscalis Programmes established by Regulation (EU) [...] of the European Parliament and of the Council⁶⁷ and Regulation (EU) [...] of the European Parliament and of the Council⁶⁸ which also aim at supporting and improving the functioning of the internal market.

⁶⁷ COM(2018)0442

⁶⁸ COM(2018)0443

⁶⁷ COM(2018)0442

⁶⁸ COM(2018)0443

Amendment 56

Proposal for a regulation Recital 65

Text proposed by the Commission

(65) The Programme should promote synergies **and** complementarities with respect to the SMEs and entrepreneurship support under the European Regional Development Fund established by Regulation (EU) [...] of the European Parliament and of the Council⁶⁹. Moreover, the SME window of InvestEU Fund established by Regulation (EU) [...] of the European Parliament and of the Council⁷⁰ will guarantee debt and equity support to enhance access and availability of finance for SMEs. The Programme should also seek synergies with the Space Programme established by Regulation (EU) [...] of the European Parliament and of the Council⁷¹ in respect of encouragement of SMEs to benefit from breakthrough innovation and other solutions developed under those programmes.

⁶⁹ COM(2018)0372

⁷⁰ COM(2018)0439

⁷¹ COM(2018)0447

Amendment

(65) The Programme should promote synergies, complementarities **and** **additionality** with respect to the SMEs and entrepreneurship support under the European Regional Development Fund established by Regulation (EU) [...] of the European Parliament and of the Council⁶⁹. Moreover, the SME window of InvestEU Fund established by Regulation (EU) [...] of the European Parliament and of the Council⁷⁰ will guarantee debt and equity support to enhance access and availability of finance for SMEs **and micro enterprises**. The Programme should also seek synergies with the Space Programme established by Regulation (EU) [...] of the European Parliament and of the Council⁷¹ in respect of encouragement of SMEs to benefit from breakthrough innovation and other solutions developed under those programmes.

⁶⁹ COM(2018)0372

⁷⁰ COM(2018)0439

⁷¹ COM(2018)0447

Amendment 57

Proposal for a regulation Recital 67

Text proposed by the Commission

(67) The Programme should promote synergies and complementarities with respect to the Digital Europe Programme established by Regulation (EU) [...] of the

Amendment

(67) The Programme should promote synergies and complementarities with respect to the Digital Europe Programme established by Regulation (EU) [...] of the

European Parliament and of the Council⁷³
which aims to promote the digitalisation of
the Union economy and the public sector.

⁷³ COM(2018)0434

European Parliament and of the Council⁷³
which aims to promote the digitalisation of
the Union economy and the public sector
and increased cybersecurity.

⁷³ COM(2018)0434

Amendment 58

Proposal for a regulation Recital 71

Text proposed by the Commission

(71) ***Where relevant*** the Programme's actions should ***be used to*** address market failures or sub-optimal investment situations, in a proportionate manner, without duplicating or crowding out private financing ***and have a clear European added value.***

Amendment

(71) The Programme's actions should ***have a clear European added value and*** address market failures or sub-optimal investment situations, in a proportionate manner, without duplicating or crowding out private financing.

Amendment 59

Proposal for a regulation Recital 72

Text proposed by the Commission

(72) ***The implementing powers should be conferred on the Commission in respect of the adoption of work programmes implementing the actions contributing to a high level of health for humans, animals and plants along the food chain. Those powers should be exercised in accordance with Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁷⁹.***

Amendment

deleted

⁷⁹ Regulation (EU) No 182/2011 of the

European Parliament and of the Council of 16 February 2011 laying down the rules and general principles concerning mechanisms for control by the Member States of the Commission's exercise of implementing powers (OJ L 55, 28.2.2011, p. 13).

Amendment 60

Proposal for a regulation Recital 73

Text proposed by the Commission

(73) The types of financing and the methods of implementation under this Regulation should be chosen on the basis of their ability to achieve the specific objectives of the actions and to deliver results, taking into account, in particular, the costs of controls, the administrative burden, and the expected risk of non-compliance. This should include consideration of the use of lump sums, flat rates and unit costs, as well as financing not linked to costs as referred to in Article 125(1) of the Financial Regulation.

Amendment

(73) The types of financing and the methods of implementation under this Regulation should be chosen on the basis of their ability to achieve the specific objectives of the actions and to deliver results, taking into account, in particular, ***the Union added value***, the costs of controls, the administrative burden, and the expected risk of non-compliance. This should include consideration of the use of lump sums, flat rates and unit costs, as well as financing not linked to costs as referred to in Article 125(1) of the Financial Regulation.

Amendment 61

Proposal for a regulation Recital 74

Text proposed by the Commission

(74) To ensure regular monitoring and reporting, a proper framework for monitoring the actions and results of the Programme should be put in place from the very beginning. Such monitoring and reporting should be based on indicators,

Amendment

(74) To ensure regular monitoring and reporting ***on the progress achieved and on the effectiveness and efficiency of the Programme***, a proper framework for monitoring the actions and results of the Programme should be put in place from the

measuring the effects of the actions under the Programme against pre-defined baselines.

very beginning. Such monitoring and reporting should be based on indicators, measuring the effects of the actions under the Programme against pre-defined baselines.

Amendment 62

Proposal for a regulation Recital 75

Text proposed by the Commission

(75) Pursuant to paragraph 22 and 23 of the Inter-institutional Agreement of 13 April 2016 on Better Law-Making⁸⁰, there is a need to evaluate this Programme on the basis of information collected through specific monitoring requirements, while avoiding overregulation and administrative burdens, in particular on Member States. These requirements, where appropriate, should include measurable indicators, as a basis for evaluating the effects of the Programme on the ground.

⁸⁰ OJ L 123, 12.5.2016, p. 1.

Amendment

(75) Pursuant to paragraph 22 and 23 of the Inter-institutional Agreement of 13 April 2016 on Better Law-Making⁸⁰, there is a need to evaluate this Programme on the basis of information collected through specific monitoring requirements, while avoiding overregulation and administrative burdens, in particular on Member States. These requirements, where appropriate, should include measurable indicators, as a basis for evaluating the effects of the Programme on the ground. ***The Commission should draw up an interim evaluation report on the achievement of the objectives of the actions supported under the Programme, on the results and impacts, on the efficiency of the use of resources and on its Union added value, as well as a final evaluation report on the longer impact, the results and the sustainability of the actions, and the synergies with other Programmes.***

⁸⁰ OJ L 123, 12.5.2016, p. 1.

Amendment 63

Proposal for a regulation Recital 75 a (new)

(75a) In order to supplement certain non-essential elements of this Regulation, the power to adopt acts in accordance with Article 290 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union should be delegated to the Commission in respect of the adoption of work programme(s).

Amendment 64

Proposal for a regulation Recital 76

(76) **The** list of animal diseases and zoonosis which qualify for funding under emergency measures and for funding under the eradication, control and surveillance programmes should be established on the basis of animal diseases referred to in Chapter 2 of Part I of Regulation (EU) 2016/429 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁸¹, Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁸² and Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁸³.

(76) **An open** list of animal diseases and zoonosis which qualify for funding under emergency measures and for funding under the eradication, control and surveillance programmes should be established on the basis of animal diseases referred to in Chapter 2 of Part I of Regulation (EU) 2016/429 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁸¹, Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁸² and Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁸³.

⁸¹ Regulation (EU) 2016/429 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 2016 on transmissible animal diseases and amending and repealing certain acts in the area of animal health ('Animal Health Law') (OJ L 84, 31.03.2016, p. 1).

⁸² Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 November 2003 on the control of Salmonella and other specified food-borne

⁸¹ Regulation (EU) 2016/429 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 2016 on transmissible animal diseases and amending and repealing certain acts in the area of animal health ('Animal Health Law') (OJ L 84, 31.03.2016, p. 1).

⁸² Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 November 2003 on the control of Salmonella and other specified food-borne

zoonotic agents (OJ L 325, 12.12.2003, p. 1).

⁸³ Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 May 2001 laying down rules for the prevention, control and eradication of certain transmissible spongiform encephalopathies (OJ L 147, 31.05.2001, p. 1).

zoonotic agents (OJ L 325, 12.12.2003, p. 1).

⁸³ Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 May 2001 laying down rules for the prevention, control and eradication of certain transmissible spongiform encephalopathies (OJ L 147, 31.05.2001, p. 1).

Amendment 65

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 77

Text proposed by the Commission

(77) In order to take account of situations that are provoked by animal diseases that have a significant impact on livestock production or trade, the development of zoonoses which pose a threat to humans, or new scientific or epidemiological developments, as well as animal diseases, which are likely to constitute a new threat for the Union, the power to adopt acts in accordance with Article 290 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union should be delegated to the Commission, in respect of amending the list of animal diseases and zoonoses. In order to ensure effective assessment of progress of the Programme towards the achievement of its objectives the power to adopt acts in accordance with Article 290 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union should be delegated to the Commission in respect of reviewing or complementing the indicators to measure the achievement of the specific objectives where considered necessary and to supplement this Regulation with provisions on the establishment of a monitoring and evaluation framework. It is of particular importance that the Commission carries out appropriate consultations during its preparatory work, including at expert level, and that those consultations be conducted

Amendment

(77) In order to take account of situations that are provoked by animal diseases that have a significant impact on livestock production or trade, the development of zoonoses which pose a threat to humans, or new scientific or epidemiological developments, as well as animal diseases, which are likely to constitute a new threat for the Union, the power to adopt acts in accordance with Article 290 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union should be delegated to the Commission, in respect of amending the list of animal diseases and zoonoses. In order to ensure effective assessment of progress of the Programme towards the achievement of its objectives the power to adopt acts in accordance with Article 290 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union should be delegated to the Commission in respect of reviewing or complementing the indicators to measure the achievement of the specific objectives where considered necessary and to supplement this Regulation with provisions on the establishment of a monitoring and evaluation framework. It is of particular importance that the Commission carries out appropriate consultations during its preparatory work, including at expert level, and that those consultations be conducted

in accordance with the principles laid down in the Interinstitutional Agreement of 13 April 2016 on Better Law-Making. ***In particular***, to ensure equal participation in the preparation of delegated acts, the European Parliament and the Council receive all documents at the same time as Member States' experts, and their experts systematically have access to meetings of Commission expert groups dealing with the preparation of delegated acts.

in accordance with the principles laid down in the Interinstitutional Agreement of 13 April 2016 on Better Law-Making. ***Stakeholders and consumer associations should be consulted as well.*** To ensure equal participation in the preparation of delegated acts, the European Parliament and the Council receive all documents at the same time as Member States' experts, and their experts systematically have access to meetings of Commission expert groups dealing with the preparation of delegated acts.

Amendment 66

Proposal for a regulation Recital 80

Text proposed by the Commission

(80) Horizontal financial rules adopted by the European Parliament and the Council on the basis of Article 322 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union ***apply to this Regulation. These rules are laid down in the Financial Regulation and determine in particular*** the procedure for establishing and implementing the budget through grants, procurement, prizes, indirect implementation, and ***provide*** for checks on the responsibility of financial actors. Rules adopted on the basis of Article 322 TFEU also concern the protection of the Union's budget in case of generalised deficiencies as regards the rule of law in the Member States, as the respect for the rule of law is an essential precondition for sound financial management and effective Union funding.

Amendment

(80) Horizontal financial rules adopted by the European Parliament and the Council on the basis of Article 322 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union ***and in particular*** the Financial Regulation ***which lays down*** the procedure for establishing and implementing the budget through grants, procurement, prizes, indirect implementation, and ***provides*** for checks on the responsibility of financial actors ***should apply to the actions under this Programme, subject to specific derogations, provided for in this Regulation.*** Rules adopted on the basis of Article 322 TFEU also concern the protection of the Union's budget in case of generalised deficiencies as regards the rule of law in the Member States, as the respect for the rule of law is an essential precondition for sound financial management and effective Union funding.

Amendment 67

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 81

Text proposed by the Commission

(81) Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁹⁰ governs the processing of personal data carried out in the Member States in the context of this Regulation and under the supervision of the Member States competent authorities. Regulation (EC) 45/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁹¹ governs the processing of personal data carried out by the Commission within the framework of this Regulation and under the supervision of the European Data Protection Supervisor. Any exchange or transmission of information by competent authorities is to comply with the rules on the transfer of personal data as laid down in Regulation (EU) 2016/679 and any exchange or transmission of information by the Commission is to comply with the rules on the transfer of personal data as laid down in Regulation (EC) No 45/2001.

Amendment

(81) Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁹⁰ governs the processing of personal data carried out in the Member States in the context of this Regulation and under the supervision of the Member States competent authorities. Regulation (EC) 45/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁹¹ governs the processing of personal data carried out by the Commission within the framework of this Regulation and under the supervision of the European Data Protection Supervisor. Any exchange or transmission of information by competent authorities is to comply with the rules on the transfer of personal data as laid down in Regulation (EU) 2016/679 and ***in Regulation XXX [Regulation on privacy and electronic communications]*** and any exchange or transmission of information by the Commission is to comply with the rules on the transfer of personal data as laid down in Regulation (EC) No 45/2001.

Amendment 68

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 83

Text proposed by the Commission

(83) The Programme should also ***be to*** ensure greater visibility and coherence of the Union's internal market, competitiveness of enterprises ***including SMEs*** and European statistics actions towards European citizens, businesses and administrations.

Amendment

(83) The Programme should also ensure greater visibility and coherence of the Union's internal market, competitiveness ***and sustainability*** of enterprises ***especially micro, small and medium-sized enterprises*** and European statistics actions towards European citizens, businesses and administrations.

Amendment 69

Proposal for a regulation Recital 85

Text proposed by the Commission

(85) It is appropriate to ensure a smooth transition without interruption between the programmes in the fields of competitiveness of enterprises **and SMEs**, consumer protection, customers and end-users in financial services, policy making in financial services, food chain and European statistics, established by Regulation (EU) No 1287/2013, Regulation (EU) No 254/2014, Regulation (EU) 2017/826, Regulation (EU) No 258/2014, Regulation (EU) No 652/2014, Regulation (EU) No 99/2013 and this Programme, in particular regarding the continuation of multiannual measures and the evaluation of the previous programmes successes,

Amendment

(85) It is appropriate to ensure a smooth transition without interruption between the programmes in the fields of competitiveness **and sustainability** of enterprises, **especially micro, small and medium-sized enterprises**, consumer protection, customers and end-users in financial services, policy making in financial services, food chain and European statistics, established by Regulation (EU) No 1287/2013, Regulation (EU) No 254/2014, Regulation (EU) 2017/826, Regulation (EU) No 258/2014, Regulation (EU) No 652/2014, Regulation (EU) No 99/2013 and this Programme, in particular regarding the continuation of multiannual measures, and the evaluation of the previous programmes successes.

Amendment 70

Proposal for a regulation Article 1 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

This Regulation establishes the programme for **improving the functioning of** the internal market and **the** competitiveness of enterprises, **including** micro, small and medium-sized enterprises and the framework for financing of development, production and dissemination of European statistics within the meaning of Article 13 of Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 (the 'Programme').

Amendment

This Regulation establishes the **Single Market** programme for **strengthening** the internal market and **improving its functioning in the fields of** competitiveness **and sustainability** of enterprises, **especially** micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, **standardisation, consumer protection, market surveillance, food supply chain** and the framework for financing of development, production and dissemination of European statistics within

the meaning of Article 13 of Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 (the 'Programme').

Amendment 71

Proposal for a regulation

Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 2

Text proposed by the Commission

(2) 'European statistics' means statistics developed, produced and disseminated in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 223/2009;

Amendment

(2) 'European statistics' means statistics, developed, produced and disseminated ***at the Union level and in the Member States*** in accordance with ***Article 3 of the Treaty on European Union*** and Regulation (EC) No 223/2009;

Amendment 72

Proposal for a regulation

Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 3

Text proposed by the Commission

3. 'legal entity' means any natural or legal person created and recognised as such under national law, Union law or international law, which has legal personality and which may, acting in its own name, exercise rights and be subject to obligations, or an entity without a legal personality in accordance with Article 197(2)(c) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) of the European Parliament and of the Council (the 'Financial Regulation');

Amendment

3. 'legal entity' means any natural or legal person created and recognised as such under national law, Union law or international law, which has legal personality and which may, acting in its own name, exercise rights and be subject to obligations, or an entity without a legal personality in accordance with Article 197(2)(c) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) ***No 2018/1046*** of the European Parliament and of the Council (the 'Financial Regulation');

Amendment 73

Proposal for a regulation

Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 4 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(4a) 'Social economy enterprise' means an enterprise whose main objective is to have a social impact rather than make a profit for their owners or shareholders, which operates by providing goods and services for the market and which is managed in an open and responsible manner involving employees, consumers and stakeholders;

Amendment 74

Proposal for a regulation

Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 4 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(4b) 'Local Public Enterprise' means a small local public service enterprise that meets the SME criteria and fulfils important tasks for local communities;

Amendment 75

Proposal for a regulation

Article 2 – paragraph 1 – point 4 c (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(4c) 'Enterprise networks' means the coming together of entrepreneurs in order to carry out a shared project and in which two or more SMEs jointly exercise one or more economic activities in order to increase their competitiveness in the market.

Amendment 76

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 1 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

(a) to improve the functioning of the internal market, and especially to protect and empower citizens, consumers and businesses, in particular micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), by enforcement of Union **law, facilitation of** market access, standard setting, **and by promoting** human, animal and plant health and animal welfare; as well as to enhance cooperation between the competent authorities of Member States and between the competent authorities of Member States and the Commission and the decentralised Union agencies;

Amendment

(a) to improve the functioning of the internal market, and especially to protect and empower citizens, consumers and businesses, in particular micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), by enforcement of Union **legal, social and environmental framework; to facilitate** market access **and access to finance, to promote fair competition between companies, and** standard setting, **to ensure a uniform and high level of consumer protection, to strengthen the market surveillance across the Union, to improve mutual recognition and to promote** human, animal and plant health and animal welfare; as well as to enhance cooperation between the competent authorities of Member States and between the competent authorities of Member States and the Commission and the decentralised Union agencies;

Amendment 77

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 1 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission

(b) to **provide** high-quality, comparable and reliable statistics **on Europe** which underpin the design, monitoring and evaluation of all the Union policies and help policy makers, businesses, academia, **citizens** and media to make informed decisions and actively participate in the democratic process.

Amendment

(b) to **develop, produce and disseminate** high-quality, comparable and reliable **European** statistics which underpin the design, monitoring and evaluation of all the Union policies, **including trade and migration, and help citizens, policy makers and regulators, supervisory authorities,** businesses, academia, **civil society** and media to make informed decisions and

actively participate in the democratic process.

Amendment 78

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 2 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

(a) making the internal market more effective, facilitating the prevention and removal of obstacles, supporting the development, implementation and enforcement of the Union law in the areas of the internal market for goods and services, public procurement, **market surveillance** as well as in the areas of company law and contract and extra-contractual law, anti-money laundering, free movement of capital, financial services and competition, including the development of governance tools;

Amendment

(a) making the internal market more effective **by:**

(i) facilitating the prevention and removal of obstacles **and** supporting the development, implementation and enforcement of the Union law, in the areas of the internal market for goods and services, **and** public procurement, as well as in the areas of company law and contract and extra-contractual law, anti-money laundering, free movement of capital, financial services and competition, including the development of governance tools;

(ii) supporting effective market surveillance and product safety throughout the Union, and contributing to the fight against the counterfeiting of products, with a view to ensuring that only safe and compliant products that offer a high level of consumer protection are made available on the Union market, including those sold online, as well as to greater homogeneity and capacity of the market surveillance authorities across the

Amendment 79

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 2 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission

(b) ***improving*** the competitiveness of enterprises with special emphasis on SMEs and achieving additionality through the provision of measures ***that provide*** various forms of support to SMEs, access to markets ***including the*** internationalisation ***of SMEs***, favourable business environment for SMEs, the competitiveness of sectors, the modernisation of industry and the ***promotion of entrepreneurship***;

Amendment

(b) ***strengthening both*** the competitiveness ***and sustainability*** of enterprises with special emphasis on SMEs and achieving additionality through the provision of measures ***(objectives for SMEs)***, ***paying particular attention to their specific needs, by:***

(i) providing various forms of support to SMEs, ***fostering the growth, promotion and creation of SMEs, including enterprise networks, development of managerial skills and fostering measures to scale-up that will allow them to better*** access to markets ***and*** internationalisation ***processes, as well as marketing of their products and services;***

(ii) fostering a favourable business environment ***and framework*** for SMEs, ***reducing administrative burden, enhancing*** the competitiveness of sectors, ***ensuring*** , the modernisation of industry ***including their digital transformation contributing to a resilient, energy and resource efficient economy;***

(iii) promoting entrepreneurial culture and contributing to the high-quality training of SMEs' staff;

(iv) promoting new business opportunities for SMEs overcoming structural changes through targeted measures , and other innovative forms of actions such as workers buy-outs facilitating job creation and the continuity of businesses, in

territories affected by these changes.

Amendment 80

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 2 – point c – point i

Text proposed by the Commission

- (i) enable the financing of European standardisation ***and stakeholder*** participation in setting up European standards;

Amendment

- (i) enable the financing of European standardisation ***bodies and the*** participation ***of all relevant stakeholders*** in setting up European standards;

Amendment 81

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 2 – point c – point ii

Text proposed by the Commission

- (ii) support the development of high-quality international financial reporting and auditing standards, facilitate their integration into the Union law ***and*** promote the innovation and development of best practices in corporate reporting;

Amendment

- (ii) support the development of high-quality international financial reporting and auditing standards, facilitate their integration into the Union law ***and/or*** promote the innovation and development of best practices in corporate reporting ***for both small and big companies;***

Amendment 82

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 2 – point d – introductory part

Text proposed by the Commission

- (d) promoting the interests of consumers and ensuring a high level of consumer protection ***and product safety*** by:

Amendment

- (d) promoting the interests of consumers and ensuring a ***uniform and*** high level of consumer protection by:

Amendment 83

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 2 – point d – point i

Text proposed by the Commission

(i) empowering, assisting and educating consumers, businesses and civil society; ensuring a high level of consumer protection, ***sustainable consumption and product safety notably by*** supporting competent enforcement authorities and consumer representative organisations and cooperation actions; ensuring that all consumers have access to redress and; provision of adequate information on markets and consumers;

Amendment

(i) empowering, assisting and educating consumers, businesses and civil society; ensuring a high level of consumer protection, ***in particular for the most vulnerable consumers in order to enhance fairness, transparency and trust in the single market;*** supporting competent enforcement authorities and consumer representative organisations and cooperation actions, ***by addressing, among others, issues raised by existing and emerging technologies, including actions aiming at improving product traceability along the supply chain; quality standards across the Union, and addressing the issue of the dual quality of products; raising awareness about consumer's rights under Union law and*** ensuring that all consumers have access to ***efficient*** redress ***mechanisms*** and provision of adequate information on markets and consumers, ***as well as promoting sustainable consumption through enhanced information to consumers on specific characteristics and environmental impact of goods and services;***

Amendment 84

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 2 – point d – point ii

Text proposed by the Commission

(ii) enhancing the participation of consumers, other financial services end-

Amendment

(ii) enhancing the participation of consumers, other financial services end-

users and civil society in financial services policy-making; promoting a better understanding of the financial sector;

users and civil society in financial services policy-making; promoting a better understanding of the financial sector *and of the different categories of commercialised financial products and ensuring the interests of consumers in the area of retail financial services*;

Amendment 85

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 2 – point e

Text proposed by the Commission

(e) contributing to a high level of health for humans, animals and plants along the food chain and in related areas, including by preventing and eradicating diseases and pests, *and to support the improvement of the welfare of animals* as well as a sustainable food production and consumption;

Amendment

(e) contributing to a high level of health *and safety* for humans, animals and plants along the food *and feed supply* chain and in related areas, including by preventing and eradicating diseases and pests, *including, by means of emergency measures in the event of large-scale crisis situations and unforeseeable events affecting animal or plant health*, as well as *supporting improvements in animal welfare and developing the* sustainable food production and consumption *at affordable prices, as well as by stimulating research, innovation and the exchange of best practices between stakeholders in those fields*.

Amendment 86

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 2 – point f

Text proposed by the Commission

(f) producing and communicating high quality statistics *on Europe* in a timely, impartial and cost-efficient manner, through enhanced partnerships within the

Amendment

(f) *developing*, producing, *disseminating* and communicating high quality *European* statistics in a timely, impartial and cost-efficient manner,

European Statistical System referred to in Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 and with all relevant external parties, using multiple data sources, advanced data analytics methods, smart systems and digital technologies.

through enhanced partnerships within the European Statistical System referred to in Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 and with all relevant external parties, using multiple data sources, advanced data analytics methods, smart systems and digital technologies, ***and providing a national and, where possible, regional breakdown.***

Amendment 87

Proposal for a regulation Article 4 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

1. The financial envelope for the implementation of the Programme for the period 2021 to 2027 shall be EUR **4 088 580 000** in current prices.

Amendment

1. The financial envelope for the implementation of the Programme for the period 2021 to 2027 shall be EUR **6 563 000 000** in current prices.

Amendment 88

Proposal for a regulation Article 4 – paragraph 2 – point -a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(-a) EUR 394 590 000 to the objective referred to in Article 3(2)(a)(i);

Amendment 89

Proposal for a regulation Article 4 – paragraph 2 – point -a a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(-aa) EUR 396 200 000 to the objective referred to in Article 3(2)(a)(ii);

Amendment 90

Proposal for a regulation

Article 4 – paragraph 2 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(a) EUR **1 000 000 000** to the objective referred to in Article 3(2)(b);

(a) EUR **3 122 000 000** to the objective referred to in Article 3(2)(b);

Amendment 91

Proposal for a regulation

Article 4 – paragraph 2 – point a a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(aa) EUR 220 510 000 to the objective referred to in Article 3(2)(c);

Amendment 92

Proposal for a regulation

Article 4 – paragraph 2 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(b) EUR **188 000 000** to the objective referred to in Article 3(2)(d)(i);

(b) EUR **198 000 000** to the objective referred to in Article 3(2)(d);

Amendment 93

Proposal for a regulation Article 4 – paragraph 3

Text proposed by the Commission

3. The amount referred to in paragraph 1 may be used for technical and administrative assistance for the implementation of the Programme, concerning in particular preparatory, monitoring, control, audit and evaluation activities as well as use of information technology networks focusing on information processing and exchange, and use and development of corporate information technology tools.

Amendment

3. The amount referred to in paragraph 1 may be used for technical and administrative assistance for the implementation of the Programme, concerning in particular preparatory, monitoring, control, audit and evaluation activities as well as use of information technology networks focusing on information processing and exchange, and use and development of corporate information technology tools. ***In order to ensure maximum availability of the Programme to finance actions covered by the objectives of the Programme, the total costs of administrative and technical support shall not exceed 5 % of the value of the financial envelope referred to in paragraph 1.***

Amendment 94

Proposal for a regulation Article 4 – paragraph 5 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

5a. A specific mechanism should be introduced for direct food chain access to the Commission's crisis reserve in case of large-scale emergencies, in order to guarantee financing for the measures set out in Article 3(2)(e).

Amendment 95

Proposal for a regulation Article 8 – paragraph 2 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

(a) creation of the right conditions to empower all actors of the internal market, including businesses, citizens **and** consumers, civil society and public authorities through transparent information and awareness raising campaigns, best practice exchange, promotion of good practices, exchange and dissemination of expertise and knowledge and organization of trainings;

Amendment

(a) creation of the right conditions to empower all actors of the internal market, including businesses, citizens, consumers, civil society and public authorities through transparent information **exchange** and awareness raising campaigns, **particularly as regards to applicable Union rules and the rights of consumers and businesses**, best practice exchange, promotion of good practices **and innovative solutions**, exchange and dissemination of expertise and knowledge and organization of trainings **for the promotion of digital literacy of citizens and businesses**;

Amendment 96

Proposal for a regulation

Article 8 – paragraph 2 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission

(b) provision of mechanisms for citizens, consumers, end-users, civil society and businesses representatives from the Union to contribute to political discussions, policies and decision making process, notably by supporting the functioning of representative organisations at national and the Union level;

Amendment

(b) provision of mechanisms for citizens, consumers, end-users, civil society, **trade unions** and businesses representatives from the Union, **in particular those representing SMEs** to contribute to political discussions, policies and decision making process, notably by supporting the functioning of representative organisations at national and the Union level;

Amendment 97

Proposal for a regulation

Article 8 – paragraph 2 – point c

Text proposed by the Commission

(c) capacity building, facilitation and coordination of joint actions between Member States and between the competent authorities of Member States and between the competent authorities of Member States and the Commission, the decentralised Union agencies and third country authorities;

Amendment

(c) capacity building, facilitation and coordination of joint actions between Member States and between the competent authorities of Member States and between the competent authorities of Member States and the Commission, the decentralised Union agencies and third country authorities, ***and more particularly joint actions aimed at strengthening product safety, enforcement of consumer protection rules in the Union and product traceability***;

Amendment 98

Proposal for a regulation

Article 8 – paragraph 2 – point d

Text proposed by the Commission

(d) support for the effective enforcement ***and*** modernisation of the Union legal framework and its rapid adaptation to the ever-changing environment, including through data gathering and analyses; studies, evaluations and policy recommendations; organization of demonstration activities and pilot projects; communication activities; development of dedicated IT tools ensuring transparent and efficient functioning of the internal market.

Amendment

(d) support for the effective enforcement ***by Member States and the*** modernisation of the Union legal framework and its rapid adaptation to the ever-changing environment ***as well as support for dealing with issues raised by digitalisation***, including through data gathering and analyses; studies, evaluations and policy recommendations; organization of demonstration activities and pilot projects; communication activities; development of dedicated IT tools ensuring transparent, ***fair*** and efficient functioning of the internal market.

Amendment 99

Proposal for a regulation

Article 8 – paragraph 2 a (new)

2a. The following actions implementing the specific objectives referred to in Article 3(2)(a)(ii) shall be eligible for funding:

(a) coordination and cooperation between market surveillance authorities and other relevant authorities of Member States, in particular through the Union Product Compliance Network

(b) development and maintenance of IT tools to exchange information on market surveillance and controls at the external borders;

(c) support for the development of joint actions and testing in the field of product safety and compliance including in relation to connected products and products sold online;

(d) cooperation, exchange of best practices and joint projects between market surveillance authorities and relevant bodies from third countries;

(e) support for market surveillance strategies, knowledge and intelligence gathering, testing capabilities and facilities, peer reviews, training programmes, technical assistance and capacity building for market surveillance authorities;

(f) assessment of type approval procedures and compliance verification of motor vehicles by the Commission.

Amendment 100

Proposal for a regulation

Article 8 – paragraph 3 – point a

(a) to provide various forms of support to SMEs;

deleted

Amendment 101

Proposal for a regulation

Article 8 – paragraph 3 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission

(b) facilitating **SMEs'** access to markets, supporting them in addressing global and societal challenges and business internationalisation, and strengthening Union industrial leadership in global value chains, **including the Enterprise Europe Network**;

Amendment

(b) facilitating **micro- enterprises , SMEs and enterprise networks'** access to markets, **including markets outside the Union**, supporting them in addressing global, **environmental, economic** and societal challenges and business internationalisation, **facilitating support for them during their life-cycle** and strengthening Union **entrepreneurial and** industrial leadership in global value chains;

Amendment 102

Proposal for a regulation

Article 8 – paragraph 3 – point c

Text proposed by the Commission

(c) addressing market barriers, administrative burden and creating a favourable business environment to **empower** SMEs to benefit from the internal market;

Amendment

(c) addressing market barriers, **reducing** administrative burden, **including reducing obstacles for setting -up enterprises and the starting of businesses** and creating a favourable business environment to **allow micro- enterprises and** SMEs to benefit from the internal market, **including access to finance, and by providing appropriate guidance, mentoring and coaching schemes delivery of knowledge -based business services**;

Amendment 103

Proposal for a regulation

Article 8 – paragraph 3 – point d

Text proposed by the Commission

(d) facilitating the growth of businesses, including skills development, and industrial transformation across manufacturing and service sectors;

Amendment

(d) facilitating the **development and** growth of **sustainable** businesses, **raising micro enterprises and SME's awareness of Unions' legislation**, including **environmental and energy Union law**, **upgrading their skills and qualifications** development, and **facilitating new business models and resource-efficient value-chains fostering sustainable** industrial, **technological and organisational** transformation across manufacturing and service sectors;

Amendment 104

Proposal for a regulation

Article 8 – paragraph 3 – point e

Text proposed by the Commission

(e) **supporting** the competitiveness of enterprises and whole sectors of economy, and supporting SMEs' uptake of innovation and value chain collaboration through strategically connecting ecosystems and clusters, including the joint cluster initiative;

Amendment

(e) **strengthening** the competitiveness **and sustainability** of enterprises and whole sectors of economy, and supporting **micro-enterprises and** SMEs' uptake of **technological, organisational and social innovation, enhancing corporate social responsibility** and value chain collaboration through strategically connecting ecosystems and clusters, including the joint cluster initiative;

Amendment 105

Proposal for a regulation

Article 8 – paragraph 3 – point f

Text proposed by the Commission

(f) fostering an entrepreneurial business environment and entrepreneurial culture, ***including*** the mentoring scheme for new entrepreneurs and supporting start-ups, business sustainability and scale-ups.

Amendment

(f) fostering an entrepreneurial business environment and entrepreneurial culture, ***enlarging*** the mentoring scheme for new entrepreneurs and supporting start-ups, business sustainability and scale-ups, ***paying particular attention to new potential entrepreneurs (i.e. youth, women), as well as other specific target groups, such as socially disadvantaged or vulnerable groups.***

Amendment 106

Proposal for a regulation

Article 8 – paragraph 3 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

3a. When implementing the specific objective referred to in Article 3(2)(b), the Commission may, in addition to the actions referred to in points (a) to (f) of paragraph 3 of this Article, support the following specific actions:

(a) accelerating, supporting and expanding advisory services through the Enterprise Europe Network in order to provide integrated business with a one-stop-shop support service to Union SMEs that seek to explore opportunities in the internal market and in the third countries, and to monitor in order to ensure that a comparable level of quality of service is provided by the latter throughout all the Member States;

(b) supporting the creation of enterprise networks;

(c) supporting and expanding mobility programmes for new entrepreneurs (“Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs”) to improve their ability to develop their

entrepreneurial know-how, skill and attitude and to improve their technological capacity and enterprise management;

(d) supporting the scale-up of SMEs through significant business extension projects based on market-driven opportunities (SME Scale-up instrument);

(e) supporting sector-specific actions in areas characterised by a high proportion of micro-enterprises and SMEs and a high contribution to the Union's GDP, such as the tourism sector.

Amendment 107

Proposal for a regulation

Article 8 – paragraph 3 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

3b. Actions undertaken through the Enterprise Europe Network referred to in point (a) of paragraph (3a) of this Article may include, inter alia:

(a) facilitating internationalisation of SMEs and identification of business partners in the internal market, cross border business cooperation on R&D, technology, knowledge and innovation transfer partnership;

(b) providing information, guidance and personalised advice on Union law, Union's financing and funding opportunities as well as on Union's initiatives that have an impact on business, including taxation, property rights, environment and energy-related obligations, labour and social security aspects;

(c) facilitating SMEs' access to environmental, climate, energy efficiency and performance expertise;

(d) enhancing the network with other

information and advisory networks of the Union and Member States, in particular, EURES the Union innovation Hubs and the InvestEu advisory Hub.

Services delivered by the Network on behalf of other Union programmes shall be funded by those programmes.

The Commission shall prioritise actions in the Network to improve parts or elements of it that do not comply with minimum standard in order to provide homogenous support to micro enterprises and SMEs throughout the Union.

The Commission shall adopt implementing acts establishing indicators and minimum standards for the purpose of measuring the impact of the Network vis-à-vis the specific objectives and the effectiveness of the actions for SMEs.

Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 21(2).

The Commission is empowered to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 20 to establish additional forms of support to the SMEs not provided for in this paragraph.

Amendment 108

Proposal for a regulation Article 8 – paragraph 5 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

5a. The following actions implementing the specific objectives referred to in Article 3(2)(d)(i) shall be eligible for funding:

(a) improving consumer awareness and education on consumer rights through life-long education on EU consumer rules, and empowering consumers to face

new issues raised by technological development and digitalisation, including the specific needs of vulnerable consumers;

(b) ensuring and facilitating access for all consumers and traders to quality out of court dispute resolution and online dispute resolution and information on redress possibilities;

(c) supporting stronger enforcement of consumer laws, with a particular attention for cross-border cases or cases involving third parties, effective coordination and cooperation between national enforcement bodies and enforcement cooperation with third countries.

(d) fostering sustainable consumption by raising consumer awareness on product's durability and environmental impact, eco-design features, promotion of consumers rights in this respect and possibility for redress in case of early-failing products;

Amendment 109

Proposal for a regulation

Article 9 – paragraph 3 – subparagraph 1 – introductory part

Text proposed by the Commission

Legal entities established in a third country which is not associated to the Programme **may** participate in the following actions:

Amendment

The Commission may allow legal entities established in a third country which is not associated to the Programme **to** participate in the following actions:

Amendment 110

Proposal for a regulation

Article 9 – paragraph 3 – subparagraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

The entities participating in the actions referred to in points a) and b) shall not be entitled to receive Union financial contributions, except where it is essential for the Programme, in particular in terms of competitiveness and access to markets for Union enterprises or in terms of protection of the consumers residing in the Union. That exception shall not apply to profit-making entities.

Amendment

The entities participating in the actions referred to in points (a) and (b) shall not be entitled to receive Union financial contributions, ***especially when there is a risk of transfer of innovative technology***, except where it is essential for the Programme, in particular in terms of competitiveness and access to markets for Union enterprises or in terms of protection of the consumers residing in the Union. That exception shall not apply to profit-making entities.

Amendment 111

Proposal for a regulation

Article 10 – paragraph 1 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

(a) for actions in the area of market surveillance implementing the specific objective referred to in Article 3(2)(a) of this Regulation, the market surveillance authorities of the Member States as referred to in Article 17 of Regulation (EC) No 765/2008 and Article 11 of [Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down rules and procedures for compliance with and enforcement of Union harmonisation legislation on products]⁹⁷ ;

⁹⁷ COM(2017)0795

Amendment

(a) for actions in the area of market surveillance implementing the specific objective referred to in Article 3(2)(a)(ii) of this Regulation, the market surveillance authorities of the Member States as referred to in Article 17 of Regulation (EC) No 765/2008 and Article 11 of [Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down rules and procedures for compliance with and enforcement of Union harmonisation legislation on products]⁹⁷;

⁹⁷ COM(2017)0795

Amendment 112

Proposal for a regulation

Article 10 – paragraph 1 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission

(b) for actions in the area accreditation **and market surveillance** implementing the specific objective referred to in Article 3(2)(a) of this Regulation, the body recognised under Article 14 of Regulation (EC) No 765/2008 to carry out the activities referred to in Article 32 of Regulation (EC) No 765/2008;

Amendment

(b) for actions in the area accreditation implementing the specific objective referred to in Article 3(2)(a)(i) of this Regulation, the body recognised under Article 14 of Regulation (EC) No 765/2008 to carry out the activities referred to in Article 32 of Regulation (EC) No 765/2008;

Amendment 113

Proposal for a regulation

Article 10 – paragraph 1 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

With regard to point (e) of the first paragraph of this Article, the Commission is empowered to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 20 to adapt the list of entities which may be awarded a grant under the Programme, for actions implementing the specific objective referred to in Article 3(2)(d)(i).

Amendment 114

Proposal for a regulation

Article 11 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

The evaluation committee(s) for actions implementing the specific objective(s) referred to in Article 3(2) may be composed fully or partially of external experts.

Amendment

The evaluation committee(s) for actions implementing the specific objective(s) referred to in Article 3(2) may be composed fully or partially of external experts. ***The work of the evaluation committee(s) shall be based on the principles of transparency, equal treatment and non-discrimination.***

Amendment 115

Proposal for a regulation Article 12 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

1. For actions implementing the specific objective referred to in Article 3(2)(a) of this Regulation with reference to market surveillance authorities of the Member States and of the third countries associated to the Programme and with reference to Union testing facilities as referred to in Article 20 of [Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down rules and procedures for compliance with and enforcement of Union harmonisation legislation on products], the Programme may finance up to 100% of eligible costs of an action, provided that the co-financing principle as defined in the Financial Regulation is not infringed.

Amendment

1. For actions implementing the specific objective referred to in Article 3(2)(a)(**ii**) of this Regulation with reference to market surveillance authorities of the Member States and of the third countries associated to the Programme and with reference to Union testing facilities as referred to in Article 20 of [Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down rules and procedures for compliance with and enforcement of Union harmonisation legislation on products], the Programme may finance up to 100% of eligible costs of an action, provided that the co-financing principle as defined in the Financial Regulation is not infringed.

Amendment 116

Proposal for a regulation Article 14 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

may receive support from the European Regional Development Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Social Fund Plus or the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development, in accordance with paragraph 5 of Article [67] of Regulation (EU) XX [Common Provisions Regulation] and Article [8] or Regulation (EU) XX [Financing, management and monitoring of the Common Agricultural Policy], provided that such actions are consistent with the objectives of the programme concerned. The rules of the Fund providing

Amendment

may receive support from the European Regional Development Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Social Fund Plus or the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development, in accordance with paragraph 5 of Article [67] of Regulation (EU) XX [Common Provisions Regulation] and Article [8] or Regulation (EU) XX [Financing, management and monitoring of the Common Agricultural Policy], **or Regulation (EU) XX [establishing the Digital Europe Programme] in particular the objective on Advanced Digital Skills,**

support shall apply.

provided that such actions are consistent with the objectives of the programme concerned. The rules of the Fund providing support shall apply.

Amendment 117

Proposal for a regulation Article 16 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

1. The **Programme shall be implemented by** work programme(s) **referred to** in Article 110 of the Financial Regulation. Work programmes shall set out, where applicable, the overall amount reserved for blending operations.

Amendment

1. The **Commission is empowered to adopt delegated acts pursuant to Article 20, supplementing this Regulation, in order to adopt** work programme(s) **in accordance with** Article 110 of the Financial Regulation. **The work programmes shall be annual or multiannual and shall in particular set out the objectives to be pursued, the expected results, the method of implementation and the total amount of the financing plan. They shall also set out in detail a description of the actions to be financed, an indication of the amount allocated to each action and an indicative implementation timetable.** Work programmes shall set out, where applicable, the overall amount reserved for blending operations.

Amendment 118

Proposal for a regulation Article 16 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

2. Work programmes **implementing** the specific objective referred to in Article 3(2)(e) as set out in Annex I **shall be adopted by the Commission by means of**

Amendment

2. **The Commission is empowered to adopt delegated acts pursuant to Article 20, supplementing this Regulation by adopting** work programmes **in accordance**

implementing acts. Those implementing acts shall be adopted in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 21(2).

with the specific objective referred to in Article 3(2)(e) as set out in Annex I.

Amendment 119

Proposal for a regulation Article 17 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

1. Indicators to report on progress of the Programme towards the achievement of the specific objectives set out in Article 3(2) are set in Annex IV.

Amendment

1. Indicators to report on progress *of the effectiveness and efficiency* of the Programme towards the achievement of the specific objectives set out in Article 3(2) are set in Annex IV.

Amendment 120

Proposal for a regulation Article 18 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

2. *The interim evaluation of the Programme shall be performed once there is sufficient information available about the implementation of the Programme, but no later than four years after the start of the Programme implementation.*

Amendment

2. *By ... [four years after the start of the implementation of the Programme] at the latest, the Commission shall draw up an interim evaluation report of the Programme on the achievement of the objectives of the actions supported under it, on the results and impacts, on the efficiency of the use of resources and on its Union added value.*

Amendment 121

Proposal for a regulation Article 18 – paragraph 5

Text proposed by the Commission

5. *At the end of the implementation of the Programme, but no later than four years after the end of the period specified in Article 1, a final evaluation of the Programme shall be carried out by the Commission.*

Amendment

5. *By ... [three years after the end of the implementation of the Programme] at the latest, the Commission shall draw up a final evaluation report on the longer term impact of the Programme, on the results and sustainability of the actions and on the synergies between the different work programmes.*

Amendment 122

**Proposal for a regulation
Article 18 – paragraph 6**

Text proposed by the Commission

6. The Commission shall *communicate the conclusions of the evaluations* accompanied by its *observations*, to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions.

Amendment

6. The Commission shall *submit the evaluation reports referred to in paragraphs 2 and 5*, accompanied by its *conclusions* to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions *and make them publicly available. Where appropriate, the reports shall be accompanied by proposals for modifications of the Programme.*

Amendment 123

**Proposal for a regulation
Article 20 – paragraph 2**

Text proposed by the Commission

2. The power to adopt delegated acts referred to in Articles 9 and 17 shall be conferred on the Commission until 31 December 2028.

Amendment

2. The power to adopt delegated acts referred to in Articles *8(3b), 9, 10, 16* and 17, shall be conferred on the Commission until 31 December 2028.

Amendment 124

Proposal for a regulation Article 20 – paragraph 3

Text proposed by the Commission

3. The delegation of power referred to in Articles 9 and 17 may be revoked at any time by the European Parliament or by the Council. A decision to revoke shall put an end to the delegation of power specified in that decision. It shall take effect the day following the publication of the decision in the Official Journal of the European Union or at a later date specified therein. It shall not affect the validity of any delegated acts already in force.

Amendment

3. The delegation of power referred to in Articles **8(3b), 9, 10, 16** and 17 may be revoked at any time by the European Parliament or by the Council. A decision to revoke shall put an end to the delegation of power specified in that decision. It shall take effect the day following the publication of the decision in the Official Journal of the European Union or at a later date specified therein. It shall not affect the validity of any delegated acts already in force.

Amendment 125

Proposal for a regulation Article 20 – paragraph 6

Text proposed by the Commission

6. A delegated act adopted pursuant to Articles 9 and 17 shall enter into force if no objection has been expressed either by the European Parliament or by the Council within a period of two months of notification of that act to the European Parliament and the Council or if, before the expiry of that period, the European Parliament and the Council have both informed the Commission that they will not object. That period shall be extended by two months at the initiative of the European Parliament or of the Council.

Amendment

6. A delegated act adopted pursuant to Articles **8(3b), 9, 10, 16** and 17 shall enter into force if no objection has been expressed either by the European Parliament or by the Council within a period of two months of notification of that act to the European Parliament and the Council or if, before the expiry of that period, the European Parliament and the Council have both informed the Commission that they will not object. That period shall be extended by two months at the initiative of the European Parliament or of the Council.

Amendment 126

Proposal for a regulation Article 21 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

1. The Commission shall be assisted by ***the Standing Committee on the Food Chain and Animal Health established by Article 58 of Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council⁹⁹***. That committee shall be a committee within the meaning of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011.

⁹⁹ ***Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 January 2002 laying down the general principles and requirements of food law, establishing the European Food Safety Authority and laying down procedures in matters of food safety (OJ L 031, 01.02.2002, p. 1).***

Amendment

1. The Commission shall be assisted by a committee within the meaning of Regulation (EU) No 182/2011.

Amendment 127

Proposal for a regulation Article 22 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

1. The recipients of Union funding shall acknowledge the origin and ensure the visibility of the Union funding (in particular when promoting the actions and their results), by providing coherent, effective and proportionate targeted information to multiple audiences, including the media and the public.

Amendment

1. The recipients of Union funding shall acknowledge the origin and ensure the ***transparency and*** visibility of the Union funding (in particular when promoting the actions and their results), by providing coherent, effective and proportionate targeted information to multiple audiences, including the media and the public.

Amendment 128

Proposal for a regulation Article 22 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

2. The Commission shall implement information and communication actions ***relating to the Programme, and*** its actions and results. Financial resources allocated to the Programme shall also contribute to the corporate communication of the political priorities of the Union, as far as they are related to the objectives referred to in Article 3.

Amendment

2. The Commission shall implement information and communication actions ***in a user-friendly manner, in order to raise awareness among consumers, citizens, businesses, especially SMEs and public administrations about the resources provided through the financial instruments of this Regulation, as well as about*** its actions and results. Financial resources allocated to the Programme shall also contribute to the corporate communication of the political priorities of the Union, as far as they are related to the objectives referred to in Article 3.

Amendment 129

Proposal for a regulation Article 22 – paragraph 3

Text proposed by the Commission

3. The Commission (EUROSTAT) shall implement information and communication activities relating to implementation of the specific objective referred to in Article 3(2)(f), its actions and results when they pertain to ***the*** development, production and dissemination of European statistics, in compliance with the statistical principles laid down in Regulation (EC) No 223/2009.

Amendment

3. The Commission (EUROSTAT) shall implement information and communication activities relating to implementation of the specific objective referred to in Article 3(2)(f), its actions and results when they pertain to ***collection of data,*** development, production and dissemination of European statistics, in compliance with the statistical principles laid down in Regulation (EC) No 223/2009.

Amendment 130

Proposal for a regulation

Annex I – paragraph 1 – point 1 – point 1.2 – point a

Text proposed by the Commission

(a) measures to eradicate a Union quarantine pest, taken by the competent authority of a Member State pursuant to Article 16 of Regulation (EU) 2016/2031 of the European Parliament and of the Council¹⁰⁵ or pursuant to the Union measures adopted in accordance with Article 28(1) of that Regulation;

¹⁰⁵ Regulation (EU) 2016/2031 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 October 2016 on protective measures against pests of plants, amending Regulations (EU) No 228/2013, (EU) No 652/2014 and (EU) No 1143/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council and repealing Council Directives 69/464/EEC, 74/647/EEC, 93/85/EEC, 98/57/EC, 2000/29/EC, 2006/91/EC and 2007/33/EC (OJ L 317, 23.11.2016, p. 4).

Amendment

(a) measures to **prevent, contain and/or** eradicate a Union quarantine pest, taken by the competent authority of a Member State pursuant to Article 16 of Regulation (EU) 2016/2031 of the European Parliament and of the Council¹⁰⁵ or pursuant to the Union measures adopted in accordance with Article 28(1) of that Regulation;

¹⁰⁵ Regulation (EU) 2016/2031 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 October 2016 on protective measures against pests of plants, amending Regulations (EU) No 228/2013, (EU) No 652/2014 and (EU) No 1143/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council and repealing Council Directives 69/464/EEC, 74/647/EEC, 93/85/EEC, 98/57/EC, 2000/29/EC, 2006/91/EC and 2007/33/EC (OJ L 317, 23.11.2016, p. 4).

Amendment 131

Proposal for a regulation

Annex I – paragraph 1 – point 1 – point 1.2 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission

(b) measures to eradicate a pest, not listed as Union quarantine pests, taken by the competent authority of a Member State pursuant to Article 29 of Regulation (EU) 2016/2031 and which may qualify as Union quarantine pests in accordance with the criteria referred to in that Article or Article 30(1) of that Regulation;

Amendment

(b) measures to **prevent, contain and/or** eradicate a pest, not listed as Union quarantine pests, taken by the competent authority of a Member State pursuant to Article 29 of Regulation (EU) 2016/2031 and which may qualify as Union quarantine pests in accordance with the criteria referred to in that Article or Article 30(1) of that Regulation;

Amendment 132

Proposal for a regulation

Annex I – paragraph 1 – point 1 – point 1.2 – point c

Text proposed by the Commission

(c) additional protective measures taken against the spread of a pest, against which Union measures have been adopted pursuant to Article 28(1) and Article 30(1) of Regulation (EU) 2016/2031, other than the *eradication* measures referred to in ***point (a) of this point and the containment measures referred to in point (b)*** of this point, where those measures are essential to protect the Union against further spread of that pest.

Amendment

(c) additional protective measures taken against the spread of a pest, against which Union measures have been adopted pursuant to Article 28(1) and Article 30(1) of Regulation (EU) 2016/2031, other than the measures referred to in ***points (a) and (b)*** of this point, where those measures are essential to protect the Union against further spread of that pest, ***restricting where necessary the free movement of carriers in the surrounding Member States.***

Amendment 133

Proposal for a regulation

Annex I – paragraph 1 – point 1 – point 1.2 – point c a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(ca) measures to eradicate a pest that has suddenly appeared, even if it is not considered a Union quarantine pest but the result of extreme climatic events or climate change in a Member State;

Amendment 134

Proposal for a regulation

Annex I – paragraph 1 – point 1 – point 1.3 – point 1.3.4 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

1.3.4a. In the event of a suspected outbreak of an animal disease and/or the

appearance of harmful organisms, checks and monitoring will need to be greatly intensified throughout the EU within the Union and at its external borders;

Amendment 135

Proposal for a regulation

Annex I – paragraph 1 – point 1 – point 1.3 – point 1.3.4 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

1.3.4b. *Measures to monitor the appearance of known as well as currently unknown pests and diseases.*

Amendment 136

Proposal for a regulation

Annex I – paragraph 1 – point 2 – point 2.1 – introductory part

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

2.1. Annual and multiannual veterinary and phytosanitary programmes for the eradication, control and surveillance of animal diseases and zoonoses listed in Annex III and of plant pests have to be implemented in compliance with the provisions laid down in the relevant Union law.

2.1. Annual and multiannual veterinary and phytosanitary programmes for the **prevention**, eradication, control and surveillance of animal diseases and zoonoses listed in Annex III and of plant pests have to be implemented in compliance with the provisions laid down in the relevant Union law.

Amendment 137

Proposal for a regulation

Annex I – paragraph 1 – point 2 – point 2.1 – paragraph 3 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

These programmes should reflect the new realities caused by climate change and the

diversity thereof at European level; they should also help prevent the erosion of European biodiversity.

Amendment 138

Proposal for a regulation

Annex I – paragraph 1 – point 2 – point 2.3 – point c

Text proposed by the Commission

(c) measures to eradicate a Union quarantine pest, taken by the competent authority of a Member State pursuant to Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2016/2031 or pursuant to the Union measures adopted in accordance with Article 28(1) of that Regulation;

Amendment

(c) measures to **prevent, contain or** eradicate a Union quarantine pest, taken by the competent authority of a Member State pursuant to Article 17 of Regulation (EU) 2016/2031 or pursuant to the Union measures adopted in accordance with Article 28(1) of that Regulation;

Amendment 139

Proposal for a regulation

Annex I – paragraph 1 – point 2 – point 2.3 – point d

Text proposed by the Commission

(d) measures to eradicate a pest, not listed as Union quarantine pests, taken by the competent authority of a Member State pursuant to Article 29 of Regulation (EU) 2016/2031 and which may qualify as Union quarantine pests in accordance with the criteria referred to in that Article or Article 30(1) of that Regulation;

Amendment

(d) measures to **prevent, contain or** eradicate a pest, not listed as Union quarantine pests, taken by the competent authority of a Member State pursuant to Article 29 of Regulation (EU) 2016/2031 and which may qualify as Union quarantine pests in accordance with the criteria referred to in that Article or Article 30(1) of that Regulation;

Amendment 140

Proposal for a regulation

Annex I – paragraph 1 – point 2 – point 2.3 – point e

Text proposed by the Commission

(e) additional protective measures taken against the spread of a pest, against which Union measures have been adopted pursuant to Articles 28(1) and 30(1) of Regulation (EU) 2016/2031, other than the **eradication** measures referred to in **point (c) of this point and the containment measures referred to in point (d)** of this point, where those measures are essential to protect the Union against further spread of that pest;

Amendment

(e) additional protective measures taken against the spread of a pest, against which Union measures have been adopted pursuant to Articles 28(1) and 30(1) of Regulation (EU) 2016/2031, other than the measures referred to in **points (c) and (d)** of this point, where those measures are essential to protect the Union against further spread of that pest;

Amendment 141

Proposal for a regulation
Annex I – paragraph 1 – point 3

Text proposed by the Commission

3. Activities to support the improvement of the welfare of animals.

Amendment

3. Activities to support the improvement of the welfare of animals, **including measures to ensure compliance with animal welfare standards and traceability including during animal transport.**

Amendment 142

Proposal for a regulation
Annex I – paragraph 1 – point 7

Text proposed by the Commission

7. Activities supporting **a** sustainable food **production and consumption.**

Amendment

7. Activities supporting **agroecological production**, sustainable food **consumption**, **which does not cause harm to the environment and biodiversity, and promotion of direct sales and short supply chains.**

Amendment 143

Proposal for a regulation Annex I – paragraph 1 – point 8

Text proposed by the Commission

8. Data-bases and computerised information management systems necessary for the effective and efficient implementation of the legislation related to the specific objective referred to in Article 3(2)(e) and having a proven added value for the Union as a whole.

Amendment

8. Data-bases and computerised information management systems necessary for the effective and efficient implementation of the legislation related to the specific objective referred to in Article 3(2)(e) and having a proven added value for the Union as a whole; ***implementation of new technologies to improve traceability of products such as QR codes on product packaging.***

Amendment 144

Proposal for a regulation Annex I – paragraph 1 – point 11

Text proposed by the Commission

11. Technical and scientific work, including studies and coordination activities, necessary to ensure the correct implementation of the legislation in the area related to the specific objective referred to in Article 3(2)(e) and the adaptation of that legislation to scientific, technological and societal developments.

Amendment

11. Technical and scientific work, including studies and coordination activities, necessary ***to safeguard prevention of the appearance of new as well as unknown pests and diseases and*** to ensure the correct implementation of the legislation in the area related to the specific objective referred to in Article 3(2)(e) and the adaptation of that legislation to scientific, technological and societal developments.

Amendment 145

Proposal for a regulation Annex I – paragraph 1 – point 14

Text proposed by the Commission

14. Support to information and awareness raising initiatives by the Union and Member States aimed at ensuring improved, compliant and sustainable food production and consumption, including food waste and food fraud prevention activities, within the implementation of the rules in the area of the specific objective referred to in Article 3(2)(e).

Amendment

14. Support to information and awareness raising initiatives by the Union and Member States aimed at ensuring improved, compliant and sustainable food production and consumption, including food waste ***prevention contributing to the circular economy***, and food fraud prevention activities, within the implementation of the rules in the area of the specific objective referred to in Article 3(2)(e).

Amendment 146

**Proposal for a regulation
Annex II – indent 5**

Text proposed by the Commission

– better measuring of trade in services, foreign direct investment, global value chains and the impact of globalisation on the Union economies.

Amendment

– better measuring of trade in ***goods and*** services, foreign direct investment, global value chains and the impact of globalisation on the Union economies.

Amendment 147

**Proposal for a regulation
Annex II – indent 8**

Text proposed by the Commission

– providing high quality, timely and reliable statistics to support the European Pillar of Social Rights and the Union Skills Policy, including statistics on the labour market, employment, education and training, income, living conditions, poverty, inequality, social protection, undeclared work and satellite accounts on skills;

Amendment

– providing high quality, timely and reliable statistics to support the European Pillar of Social Rights and the Union Skills Policy, including, ***but not exclusive to***, statistics on the labour market, employment, education and training, income, living conditions, poverty, inequality, social protection, undeclared work and satellite accounts on skills;

Amendment 148

Proposal for a regulation

Annex III

Text proposed by the Commission

List of animal diseases and zoonoses

- (1) *African horse sickness*
- (2) *African swine fever*
- (3) *Anthrax*
- (4) *Avian influenza (highly pathogenic),*
- (5) *Avian influenza (low pathogenic)*
- (6) *Campylobacteriosis*
- (7) *Classical swine fever*
- (8) *Foot-and-mouth disease*
- (9) *Contagious caprine pleuropneumonia*
- (10) *Glanders*
- (11) *Infection with bluetongue virus (serotypes 1-24),*
- (12) *Infection with Brucella abortus, B. melitensis and B. suis*
- (13) *Infection with epizootic haemorrhagic disease virus*
- (14) *Infection with lumpy skin disease virus*
- (15) *Infection with Mycoplasma mycoides subsp. mycoides SC (Contagious bovine pleuropneumonia),*
- (16) *Infection with Mycobacterium tuberculosis complex (M. bovis, M. caprae and M. tuberculosis)*
- (17) *Infection with Newcastle disease virus*
- (18) *Infection with peste des petits*

Amendment

List of animal diseases and zoonoses

The list of animal diseases and zoonoses covers:

- (a) *the list of diseases drawn up pursuant to Chapter 2 of Part 1 of Regulation 2016/429;*
- (b) *salmonella, zoonoses and zoonotic agents covered by Regulation (EC) No 2160/2003 and Directive 2003/99/EC;*
- (c) *transmissible spongiform encephalopathies.*

ruminants virus

(19) Infection with rabies virus

(20) Infection with Rift Valley fever virus

(21) Infection with rinderpest virus

(22) Infection with zoonotic Salmonella serovars

(23) Infestation with Echinococcus spp

(24) Listeriosis

(25) Sheep pox and goat pox

(26) Transmissible spongiform encephalopathies

(27) Trichinellosis

(28) Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis

(29) Verotoxigenic E. coli

Amendment 149

Proposal for a regulation

Annex IV – Indicators – table

Text proposed by the Commission

Objective	Indicator
Objectives laid down in Article 3(2)(a)	<p><i>1 - Number of new complaints and cases of non-compliance in the area of free movement of goods and services, as well as Union legislation on public procurement.</i></p> <p>2 - Services Trade Restrictiveness Index.</p> <p>3 - Number of visits to the Your Europe portal.</p> <p><i>4 – Number of Joint market surveillance campaigns.</i></p>
Objectives laid down in Article 3(2)(b)	1 - Number of SMEs receiving support

	2 - Number of companies supported having concluded business partnerships.
Objectives laid down in Article 3(2)(c) (i) (ii)	1 - Share of implementation of European standards as national standards by Member States in total amount of active European standards. 2 - Percentage of international financial reporting and auditing standards endorsed by the Union.
Objectives laid down in Article 3(2)(d) (i) (ii)	1 - Consumer condition index. 2 - Number of position papers and responses to public consultations in the field of financial services from beneficiaries.
Objectives laid down in Article 3(2)(e)	1 - Number of successfully implemented national veterinary and phytosanitary programmes.
Objectives laid down in Article 3(2)(f)	1 - Impact of statistics published on the internet: number of web mentions and positive/negative opinions.

Amendment

Objective	Indicator
Objectives laid down in Article 3(2)(a)(i)	1 - Union legislation on public procurement. 2 - Services Trade Restrictiveness Index. 3 - Number of visits to the Your Europe portal.
<i>Objectives laid down in Article 3(2)(a)(ii)</i>	<i>1 - Number of new complaints and cases of non-compliance in the area of free movement of goods and services and online sales.</i> <i>2 - Number of Joint market surveillance</i>

	<i>and products safety campaigns.</i>
Objectives laid down in Article 3(2)(b)	<p>1 - Number of SMEs receiving support <i>from the programme and the Network.</i></p> <p>2 - Number of companies supported having concluded business partnerships.</p> <p><i>2a - Number of entrepreneurs benefitting from mentoring and mobility schemes</i></p> <p><i>2b - Time and cost reduction in setting up an SME.</i></p> <p><i>2c - Number of enterprise networks created compared to baseline</i></p> <p><i>2d - Number of Member States using SME test.</i></p> <p><i>2e - Marked increase in the number of Member States with a one-stop shop for business start-ups.</i></p> <p><i>2f - Increase in the proportion of SMEs exporting and increase in the proportion of SMEs exporting outside the Union compared to baseline.</i></p> <p><i>2g - Marked increase in number of Member States implementing entrepreneurship solutions targeting potential, young, new and female entrepreneurs, as well as other specific target groups compared to baseline</i></p> <p><i>2h - Increase in the proportion of Union citizens that would like to be self-employed compared to baseline.</i></p> <p><i>2i - Performance of SMEs as regards sustainability to be measured inter alia by the increase in the proportion of Union SMEs developing sustainable blue economy and green products1a and services and by their improvement in resource-efficiency (which may include energy, materials or water, recycling, etc) compared to baseline.</i></p>
Objectives laid down in Article 3(2)(c) (i)	<p>1 - Share of implementation of European standards as national standards by Member States in total amount of active European standards.</p>

(ii)	2 - Percentage of international financial reporting and auditing standards endorsed by the Union.
Objectives laid down in Article 3(2)(d) (i) (ii)	1 - Consumer condition index. 2 - Number of position papers and responses to public consultations in the field of financial services from beneficiaries.
Objectives laid down in Article 3(2)(e)	1 - Number of successfully implemented national veterinary and phytosanitary programmes.
	2 - Number of emergencies caused by pests successfully resolved;
	3 - Number of emergencies caused by diseases successfully resolved;
Objectives laid down in Article 3(2)(f)	1 - Impact of statistics published on the internet: number of web mentions and positive/negative opinions.
