



Survey on the EU single market – Obstacles to cross-border business

1. Introduction

At last October's [European Parliament of Enterprises](#) in Brussels, almost 70% of the entrepreneurs answered negatively to the question “Is the Single Market sufficiently integrated, allowing your company to operate and compete freely?”. In 2014, 84% of the participating entrepreneurs answered NO to the same question. The results show a slight improvement, but there’s still an overwhelming majority of entrepreneurs who believe there is still a long way to go.

The European Commission is set to start a new legislative term around November of this year under the leadership of Commissioner President Ursula Von der Leyen. The objective of this survey is to assess the shortcomings of the Single Market and to provide inputs to the new Commission to ensure that the right policy goals are set.

The survey will be available online for you to fill in until 25 September 2019. It should not take you more than 10 minutes to fill out the survey. You can save your replies and come back to the survey later.

2. Company profile

a. Home country (headquarters if multi-national) (drop down with all EU member states, only 1 option possible):*

- Austria
- Belgium
- Bulgaria
- Croatia
- Cyprus
- Czech Republic
- Denmark
- Estonia
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Greece
- Hungary
- Ireland
- Italy
- Latvia
- Lithuania
- Luxembourg
- Malta
- The Netherlands

- Poland
- Portugal
- Romania
- Slovakia
- Slovenia
- Spain
- Sweden
- United Kingdom

b. Would you classify your business as MAINLY a (drop down, only 1 option possible):*

- Producer
- Service provider (including traders)

c. Number of employees (drop down, only 1 option possible):*

- 1 to 9
- 10 to 49
- 50 to 249
- 250 or more

d. EU single market activity (drop down, 1 option possible):*

- My company does business in one or more other EU countries
- My company does not do business in any other EU country, but would like to
- My company does not do business in any other EU country and has no plans to do so

e. My business sells products and/or services online:*

- Yes
- No

3. EU Single Market obstacles

How significant to you are the following obstacles to doing business in other EU countries?

	Extremely significant	Significantly	Slightly significant	Insignificant
Inaccessibility to information on rules and requirements	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Complex administrative procedures	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Different national product rules	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Different national service rules	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Differing VAT procedures	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Non-VAT related taxation issues	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Problems/uncertainties in posting workers temporarily to another country	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Difficulties in the recognition of professional qualifications and/or meeting other requirements to access a regulated profession	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Different contractual/legal practices	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Concerns about resolving commercial or administrative disputes, also because of deficits in legal protection before national or European authorities and courts	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Issues related to payment recovery				

	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Insufficient legal/financial information about potential business partners in other countries	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Language barriers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Arbitrary public procurement practices	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Differences in national (online) consumer rights	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Discrimination of foreign enterprises by legislation or national authorities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

4. Solutions to obstacles

How helpful do you consider the following potential EU solutions in helping your company to do business in other EU countries?

	Extremely helpful	Helpful	Slightly helpful	Unhelpful
Creation of a single point of contact in the home country, certifying your company's eligibility to provide services in your home country, in order to facilitate proof of eligibility in other EU countries	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
A single EU-wide repository where you can enter company data and documentation required for public tender processes in order to avoid multiple requests for the same information	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
A standardized EU-wide VAT declaration in your native language	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Easier cross-border access to liberal professions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Better and clearer information on a single EU online portal in different languages concerning all necessary procedures and formalities to operate in another EU country	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Administrative simplification for trading goods and services in other EU Member States by making available a maximum number of procedures through an online web portal	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Improved implementation of EU law via more cooperation between Member States and EU Commission on enforcement	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Creation of an online calculator which helps to calculate the salaries of posted workers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Stop requiring A1 portable document				

forms for business trips abroad	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
A training and cooperation mechanism for public authorities (including local ones) to ensure sufficient knowledge on applicable law	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Harmonisation of national regulations and standards such as product design and licensing requirements	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Harmonisation of national regulations on (online) consumer protection	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Cutting red tape e.g. extensive reporting, information or documentation obligations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Take greater account of the impact of new regulations on small and mid-sized enterprises	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Increased action against national measures that make it more difficult for foreign companies than domestic ones to establish themselves on their local market	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ensure better legal protection before national and European authorities and courts in case of breaches of EU rules	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

5. Reporting Single Market Obstacles

What do you do when you encounter obstacles when making use of your Single Market rights? (the answers ARE NOT mutually exclusive)

	Very likely	Likely	Unlikely
I report the problem to the chamber of commerce in my country	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I get in contact with an Assistance Service (European or national level)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I report the problem to SOLVIT	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I get in contact with a lawyer	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
I do nothing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

6. Concrete restrictions and obstacles

Do you have a striking example of a restriction to a market in another EU Member State which you believe the European Commission should hear about? Please feel free to make additional comments and suggestions on the EU Single Market here:

Thank you very much for completing this survey. EUROCHAMBRES will provide its national Chamber members with feedback on the results of the survey in due course and invite them to share this information with you.

Notice

This survey only collects anonymous answers. Shall any personal information be provided for the purposes of the survey submission, please be informed it will be treated according to applicable provisions under the EU General Data Protection Regulation. Please note that as the collection of the survey is done through an external provider, by clicking on the link, you will be redirected to another website or Internet source that may collect information about you through cookies or other technologies. EUROCHAMBRES does not carry any responsibility or control over these other sites or Internet resources, nor about the collection, use and distribution of your personal data. You should check the privacy policies of these other websites and Internet sources yourself to determine whether they are acting according to applicable law on Data protection.