

I Press Release

Brussels, 22 February 2018

Mixed reaction on Single Digital Gateway European Parliament committee vote

EUROCHAMBRES CEO Arnaldo Abruzzini expressed mixed views in response to today's European Parliament Internal Market and Consumer Protection Committee vote on the proposed Single Digital Gateway regulation: "EUROCHAMBRES has consistently called for a Single Digital Gateway that enables full transactionality of the most important e-procedures. We are pleased that the IMCO Committee has included procedures related to tax obligations, but are disappointed in the diluted wording on business registration."

Mr Abruzzini also questioned the levels of ambition among policy makers in the year that the single market hits 25: "The Single Digital Gateway will help small businesses overcome the many remaining non-tariff barriers within the EU and to expand across borders. But it's very much a second best solution, as the Gateway wouldn't be needed if we had a truly integrated single market. 25 years after the creation of the single market, we need more ambition from the colegislators and national administrations."

Background information:

- The Single Digital Gateway regulation was adopted in May 2017 as part of the Commission's Single Market Compliance Package. It is intended to provide citizens and businesses with easy access to accurate, up-to-date and easily understandable information. The other main goal of the intiaitve is to facilitate the online use of business procedures, including by companies from other Member States.
- A <u>EUROCHAMBRES</u> survey of <u>businesses</u> in <u>autumn 2015</u> on obstacles and solutions to the single market was influential during the preparation of the Commission's proposal. The results highlighted the need for practical solutions on different national rules and procedures and how to comply with them.

Press contact: Mr Luis Piselli, Tel. +32 2 282 08 92, piselli@eurochambres.eu

Further information: Mr Erwan Bertrand, Tel. +32 2 282 08 67, bertrand@eurochambres.eu

All EUROCHAMBRES' press releases can be downloaded from

http://www.eurochambres.eu/Content/default.asp?pagename=Pressreleases

Connecting business to Europe