

EUROCHAMBRES applauds Parliament vote on Goods' Package

Today the European Parliament has adopted the 'Goods' Package', a set of measures which should improve the free movement of so-called 'non-harmonised goods'* within the internal market of the EU. EUROCHAMBRES strongly welcomes this Package as it will facilitate companies – and in particular small and medium-sized ones – in the marketing of non-harmonised goods, which account for about a fourth of all goods circulating in the EU.

EUROCHAMBRES particularly welcomes the strengthening of the principle of 'Mutual Recognition', whereby each Member State has to allow in its own market non-harmonised goods that are legally marketed in another Member State – unless overriding reasons of public health or safety occur.

Arnaldo Abruzzini, EUROCHAMBRES' Secretary General, said: *"It is of outmost importance that the principle of Mutual Recognition is now fixed in a regulation, since this will greatly limit the scope for misapplication in Member States. The regulation adds a great degree of legal certainty to the internal market for goods, is likely to boost SMEs' cross-border trade as well as to cut red tape for companies. We congratulate the European Parliament for listening to the voice of businesses and putting the companies' interests high during this debate."*

According to recent estimations, the cost of the non application of the principle of Mutual Recognition amounts to over EUR 100bn a year.

* Goods for which there is no harmonised legislation at EU level.
