

## 28<sup>th</sup> Regime proposal offers a new pathway for cross-border business growth

Eurochambres generally welcomes today's proposal from the European Commission to introduce a new 28<sup>th</sup> Regime for businesses operating across the EU. If implemented effectively, the initiative has the potential to provide founders, businesses, investors and other stakeholders with a reliable legal structure to support businesses seeking to expand across borders.

European businesses continue to encounter fragmented legal and administrative frameworks when expanding beyond their home markets. A well-designed 28<sup>th</sup> regime could help address these barriers by streamlining procedures, speeding up company formation and offering a simplified framework that reduces complexity for businesses seeking to grow in the single market. *"Companies need to focus on growth and innovation rather than dealing with unnecessary obstacles. We must ensure that the regime remains simple, predictable and business-friendly. This will be key to unlocking its full potential,"* Eurochambres President Vladimír Dlouhý points out.

To achieve its objective, the regime must prioritise digitalisation and once-only submissions, ensuring that companies can start operating across borders without unnecessary delays or additional costs. National business registries should remain the cornerstone of the framework, providing the trusted infrastructure needed for the system to function effectively.

The proposal also creates an opportunity to address persistent financing challenges faced by many growing European companies, particularly if it helps stimulate greater cross-border equity investment.

However, insolvency-related matters must remain within the competence of member states to ensure legal certainty, safeguard national frameworks that have been well established for years and avoid unnecessary cross-border disruption.

As discussions on the Commission proposal begin, policymakers should keep the broader objective in mind. Europe's competitiveness depends on creating a business environment in which SMEs can scale quickly and confidently across the EU. Co-legislators must avoid amendments that have not been thoroughly examined through proper impact assessments, focusing instead on measures that genuinely support the aim of facilitating cross-border growth.

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