

Proposal for a directive on consumer rights: the business perspective

European Parliament SME Intergroup breakfast

BUSINESSEUROPE: 40 members in 34 countries

							 Confederation of Danish Industry
Austria	Belgium	Bulgaria	Croatia	Cyprus	Czech Republic	Denmark	Denmark
							
Estonia	Finland	France	Germany	Germany	Greece	Hungary	Iceland
							
Iceland	Ireland	Italy	Latvia	Lithuania	Luxembourg	Malta	Montenegro
							
Norway	Poland	Portugal	Portugal	Rep. San Marino	Romania	Slovakia	Slovenia
							
Spain	Sweden	Switzerland	Switzerland	The Netherlands	Turkey	Turkey	United Kingdom



Fragmentation in the Internal Market :

Minimum harmonisation directives have led to:

- a fragmented regulatory environment
- higher compliance costs
- reluctance to engage in cross-border sales
- legal uncertainty
- lack of Single Market for B2C transactions



BUSINESSEUROPE's goal

- A more common regulatory framework for B2C contracts
- Ensure a high level of consumer protection
- Strike a fair balance of interests
- Avoid unnecessary burden on traders



Benefits of the proposal (1)

- For the Single Market and the economy:
 - removing barriers caused by the disparity of national rules
 - enhancing competition in domestic and cross-border trade
 - facilitating cross-border enforcement
 - increasing legal certainty and easier communication



Benefits of the proposal (2)

- For businesses:
 - lower compliance costs
 - more legal certainty
 - more cross-border opportunities

- For consumers:
 - increased confidence benefiting from more common rights and level of protection across EU
 - easier access to products and services
 - wider choice and more competitive prices



BUSINESSEUROPE's position

- Support for a targeted full harmonisation approach
- Where full harmonisation is not possible, status quo should be kept
- Avoid creating additional layers of legal fragmentation
- Clarification of scope and interaction with other Community legislation



*THANK YOU
FOR YOUR ATTENTION!*

More information about the proposal can be
found at www.businessseurope.eu

