



Ms Elżbieta Bieńkowska
Commissioner for Internal Market, Industry,
Entrepreneurship and SMEs
European Commission
Rue de la Loi 200
BE - 1049 Brussels
BELGIUM

27 April 2017

Re: Comments on the 2017 Services Package, including proposals for a European services e-card

Dear Commissioner, *Dear Ms. Bieńkowska,*

The Services Package that the European Commission presented in January is timely and welcome. As you know well, the free movement of services in the single market is still underdeveloped, while this is the area where great growth potential can be unleashed.

BusinessEurope supports the novel approach that the Commission has taken with some of the measures included in the package such as the proposal for an improved notification procedure and a proportionality test for regulated professions to move beyond the classic line of ensuring better implementation of the 2006 Services Directive. Although high quality implementation and correct application of existing legislation remains of fundamental importance, we welcome pragmatic ideas and bold methods to further integrate national services markets, boost cross-border service provision and remove remaining barriers that companies continue to face.

We believe that the European services e-card (ESC) proposals need to be improved to make them more precise, for example regarding the information to be included in the e-card. The benefits of ESC must be very clear to ensure its take-up, otherwise this novel approach will not work. Moreover, it remains of fundamental importance throughout the legislative process that the EU institutions listen very carefully to the concerns and views of the sectors and companies specifically targeted by the ESC proposals, namely the construction and business services sectors.

At annex to this letter, you will find BusinessEurope's detailed views on the Services Package. We stand ready to discuss the proposals further and improve them to ensure that they really contribute to creating a better functioning single market for services to the benefit of citizens, consumers and businesses.

Yours sincerely,

Markus J. Beyrer
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