



**Member of the Transport Committee of the
European Parliament**

Rue de Trèves 3
European Parliament
BE-1050 Brussels
BELGIUM

By email

28/02/2019

Dear Member of the European Parliament,

Transport Committee vote on 4 March 2019
Discontinuing seasonal changes of time

Ahead of the European Parliament's Transport Committee vote on the discontinuation of seasonal changes of time on 4 March 2019, BusinessEurope wishes to express its concern regarding the serious impact that the proposed changes will have on the EU Single Market.

Abolishing the bi-annual seasonal time changes and forcing each Member State to choose between summer or wintertime without harmonization, risks leading to a patchwork of standard times throughout the EU. Such fragmentation will hugely impact cross-border activity in the EU, the functioning of the Single Market and economic relations with non-EU partners, including post-Brexit UK. For instance, in the aviation sector it will lead to systemic chaos as global airline schedules and slot coordination will be disrupted or commuters living in border regions would be affected where differences between time zones are increased.

We deeply regret that no Impact Assessment was undertaken prior to the release of this legislative proposal to better understand the implications for businesses, consumers and environment, contrary to the Interinstitutional Agreement on Better Law-Making. Thorough impact assessments are even more critical given the impact on transport, logistics and supply chain management.

BusinessEurope insists that a harmonized European approach is absolutely essential to avoid fragmentation of the EU Single Market and the risks outlined above.

We trust in your support on this extremely important issue.

Yours sincerely,

Markus J. Beyrer