



**Mr Michael Damianos,**  
Chair of EU Competitiveness Council,  
Minister of Energy, Commerce and Industry  
of Cyprus

22 May 2026

Dear Minister,

## **Key messages to EU Competitiveness Council of 28 May 2026**

With a view to the upcoming EU Competitiveness Council meeting on 28 May, BusinessEurope presents its key messages which we trust you will find helpful for the foreseen policy debates.

### **The regulatory burden reduction.**

First and foremost, it is **regrettable that the EU Competitiveness Council will not discuss the regulatory burden reduction priorities** and the recent European Commission communication on “A Simpler, Clearer and Better Enforced EU Rulebook” that outlines the Commission’s mid-term revision of the better regulation policy and the stakes the EU Council and the European Parliament have in it.

**The challenge of improving the business climate and, in particular, reducing regulatory burdens for companies remains**, as confirmed by BusinessEurope’s Council of Presidents today.<sup>1</sup> Only a small fraction of the business community suggestions on regulatory burden reduction at EU level, contained in BusinessEurope’s [Omnibook-to-reduce-regulatory-burden](#), have been addressed to date while approximately half of them remain pending in negotiations without clear possible outcomes.<sup>2</sup>

It would also be important to **assess the announced twelve priority areas in the Regulatory Deep Cleaning Action Plan and commit to further urgent burden reduction measures** so that companies feel the impact in their day-to-day operations. In BusinessEurope’s view, the Action Plan does not clearly define a measurable objective of reducing compliance costs for businesses and misses out on such crucial areas requiring burden reduction as social and consumer policies. Moreover, **the regulatory**

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<sup>1</sup> [2026-05-22-Dublin-Declaration-of-BusinessEuropes-Council-of-Presidents.pdf](#)

<sup>2</sup> BusinessEurope additionally invited partner business organisations at EU level to pool ideas for improving the business environment in a sign that a critical mass of problems affecting companies remains unresolved, on our joint website on burden reduction called “[Cutting the clutter](#)”.



**discipline or restraint should be strictly applied by the Commission and respectively by the Council when considering any legislative initiatives.**

BusinessEurope therefore **urges the EU Council to support a more ambitious regulatory simplification agenda**, upholding the underlying regulatory burden reduction objective in its negotiations on the proposed omnibus packages or other simplification measures. The business community is **extremely concerned by developments going against the simplification objective, for example in the instances of Omnibus IV (part on digitalisation and common specifications) or Omnibus VII (on digital, part on GDPR)**. Impacts of substantive amendments introduced by the Council should be assessed before pushing the agreements through.

We also call on the Member States to actively **support the regulatory burden reduction agenda at national level** which is imperative to deliver tangible change.

BusinessEurope will revert on the issue of the regulatory burden reduction agenda and better regulation policy in general to the EU Council with a position paper in the coming weeks.

## **An ambitious EU Inc. for an ambitious internal market**

BusinessEurope strongly supports swift adoption of the EU Inc. proposal, mainly **focused on an inclusive, digital by design and easy to set up company law form, without adding further workers participation and other labor matters** beyond what is foreseen in the Commission proposal.

The form of a regulation, freedom to separate the registered office and main place of business/central administration, mutual recognition by member states and digitalization throughout the company lifecycle (including integration with EU business wallets) are essential elements to ensure the attractiveness, take-up and ultimate success of this instrument.

Last but not least, the EU Inc. should not be considered in isolation. It should be seen as one component among several EU initiatives and tools (present and future) that are necessary to make Europe more competitive.

## **The Industrial Accelerator Act.**

BusinessEurope invites the Council to ensure that the Industrial Accelerator Act supports industrial decarbonisation through speedier permitting and demand stimulation for low-carbon technologies and products, while providing a workable implementation framework and adequate support for industrial investment, innovation and production in Europe.

The co-legislators should carefully calibrate the introduction of a “European preference” in public procurement and public support schemes in the context of the Industrial



Accelerator Act, ensuring it is targeted to strategic sectors identified based on a robust analysis, it considers key partners, especially those that are closely integrated with the EU and is implemented in an unbureaucratic way, as well as avoid creating two parallel systems for screening foreign direct investment in the EU.<sup>3</sup>

We stand ready to discuss these matters with the Council further.

Yours sincerely,

Markus J. Beyrer  
Director General

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<sup>3</sup> BusinessEurope is preparing a fully-fledged position paper on the Industrial Accelerator Act.