

Question for written answer E-002667/2024
to the Commission
Rule 144
Jorge Martín Frías (Pfe)

Subject: Clarification on the framework for reducing reporting obligations and red tape for SMEs

The Commission has committed to reducing reporting obligations by 25 % for businesses and 35 % for SMEs, in line with the recommendations made in the Draghi report, which stresses the need to cut red tape in order to make the European economy more competitive. However, serious doubts have been raised about how the commitment could be put into practice and about its reach.

What is more, a recent report by Parliament's Policy Department for Economic, Scientific and Quality of Life Policies shows that the bureaucratic costs faced by European SMEs come mainly from environmental legislation such as the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive and the Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulation. The Commission's climate agenda is guilty of creating rampant bureaucracy that is crippling our SMEs.

Against that backdrop, we ask the Commission the following questions:

1. How was the basis for calculating the reduction targets of 25 % for enterprises and 35 % for SMEs quantified? What methodology will be used to ensure that the commitments are assessed in a transparent and realistic manner?
2. Is the Commission prepared to drop its climate agenda in order to put European SMEs' competitiveness first?

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