

**Question for written answer E-001488/2025/rev.1
to the Commission**
Rule 144
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Subject: Navigating in the right direction

US President Donald Trump has appointed Elon Musk to lead the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE), which will eradicate wasteful spending and significantly reduce the US federal budget. President Milei of Argentina has reduced the federal budget by 30 % as part of his battle against deficits. Meanwhile, Europe's economy is lagging strongly behind and our companies are sinking in a swamp of EU regulation and bureaucracy. The Competitiveness Compass aspires to simplify a few rules, and yet dozens of new regulations will be introduced in the coming years. Simplification and mass deregulation is needed if the EU wants to become competitive again.

1. Can the Commission provide an overview of the concrete steps it is planning to take to accomplish mass deregulation, including a timeline of the regulations that are intended to be eliminated over time?
2. Over the past decades, dozens of EU decentralised agencies, joint undertakings and bodies have been created. Does the Commission intend to re-evaluate the need for and the efficiency of these undertakings, and is it willing to get rid of redundant EU agencies?
3. Simplification – as in the Competitiveness Compass – and deregulation will both lead to a reduction in the number of EU civil servants needed. Can the Commission provide an overview and timeline of the expected reduction in the Commission workforce, which currently consists of more than 32 800 people¹?

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¹ <https://www.statista.com/statistics/1553453/european-commission-staff-by-department/> (situation end of 2024).