

**Priority question for written answer P-002803/2025
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Ciaran Mullooly (Renew)

Subject: Removal of the Social Economy Unit from DG GROW and its impact on policy coherence

On 1 May 2025, the Commission disbanded the Social Economy Unit in the Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs (DG GROW), transferring its responsibilities to the Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion (DG EMPL). This move risks weakening the economic and industrial positioning of the social economy – an ecosystem employing over 11 million people – at a time when resilience, inclusion and competitiveness need to go hand in hand.

Given that all 27 Member States recently committed themselves to integrating the social economy into national industrial policy:

1. what was the rationale for removing the Social Economy Unit from DG GROW, and how will the Commission safeguard its presence in enterprise and industrial policy?
2. how will the Commission guide Member States on the interpretation and application of this shift in their national strategies given that a clear response is vital to avoid fragmentation and ensure continuity of support for this strategic sector?

Submitted: 9.7.2025