

EN

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Answer given by Mr Dombrovskis
on behalf of the European Commission
(8.8.2025)

1. The President of the Commission has made the reduction of red tape a priority for the new mandate of the Commission. This includes a reduction of all burdens and a target to cut 25% of all administrative costs (35% for small and medium-sized enterprises) i.e. EUR 37.5 billion. The Commission's 2025 work programme contains 11 legislative measures (out of 18) which contribute to simplification, with the first five Omnibus proposals adopted in February¹, May, June and July 2025². The Commission has a very ambitious simplification programme, but its proposals preserve the EU policy goals.

2. There are currently 33 decentralised agencies partially or fully funded from the EU budget, supporting the implementation of EU policies. They are set up by the legislator on the basis of a Commission proposal, preceded by an impact assessment. In line with the Common Approach³, the founding acts of agencies require the Commission to carry out an evaluation of the agency, normally every 5 years. The evaluation assesses the effectiveness, efficiency, coherence, relevance, and EU added value of the EU decentralised agencies⁴ and therefore provides a basis to decide on possible amendments to the governance or mandate of the agency and whether to continue or not its mandate.

3. The Commission continuously strives to ensure an optimal allocation of its resources, reflecting its political priorities, legal and institutional obligations, while responding to the increasing workload generated by new and urgent needs and geopolitical crisis. Given the new policy initiatives and the growing responsibilities assigned to the Commission by the Co-legislators, the Commission looks at deploying its resources in the most efficient manner, and to continue seeking synergies and efficiencies.

¹ https://commission.europa.eu/news-and-media/news/commission-proposes-cut-red-tape-and-simplify-business-environment-2025-02-26_en.

² https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_1205,
https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_1277,
https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_1518.

³ https://european-union.europa.eu/document/download/d4199ff4-1e3d-45e6-af7e-90cf1a7b10bc_en?filename=joint_statement_on_decentralised_agencies_en.pdf.

⁴ https://commission.europa.eu/law/law-making-process/better-regulation/better-regulation-guidelines-and-toolbox_en.