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Answer given by Executive Vice-President Séjourné
on behalf of the European Commission
(17.12.2025)

The Postal Services Directive[1] requires Member States to ensure that users enjoy the right to a permanent provision of a postal universal service at all points of the territory. However, the Directive does not specify the exact number or location of branches, the determination of which is a national competence. The Greek national postal regulatory authority has informed the Commission that Hellenic Post has postponed closures in all non-urban areas and that discussions with Hellenic Post are underway.

The Commission has announced in the Single Market Strategy[2] that the regulatory framework for postal services including the Directive will be revised and a new EU Delivery Act is envisaged for the second half of 2026[3]. A call for evidence[4] closed on 14 November 2025 and a public consultation will be launched in mid-December 2025 to enable stakeholders to provide feedback on the future regulatory framework including issues to which the Honorable Member refers to in his question.

Under the principle of shared management running Cohesion Policy funds, the project selection and implementation fall under the mere responsibility of the Member States. It should be noted that maintenance costs cannot be financed.

[1] https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:01997L0067-20080227.
[2] https://single-market-economy.ec.europa.eu/publications/single-market-our-european-home-market-uncertain-world_en.
[3] https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/strategy-documents/commission-work-programme/commission-work-programme-2026_en.
[4] https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/14821-New-EU-Delivery-Act-EU-to-reform-postal-rules_en.