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Answer given by Executive Vice-President Virkkunen
on behalf of the European Commission
(16.2.2026)

The Commission's agenda for regulatory simplification is rooted in the urgency flagged by the Draghi¹ and Letta² reports to support the EU's competitiveness and ensure the EU's resilience. As part of this agenda, the Commission proposed a Digital Omnibus³. That proposal is not a response to external pressures. It seeks to solidify the EU's digital sovereignty and facilitate innovation in Europe, in particular by cutting administrative costs with an estimated EUR 5 billion in savings expected by end 2029 and providing legal clarity and certainty in the data, artificial intelligence (AI), and cybersecurity rules to support small and scaling businesses.

The Commission carried out extensive consultations ahead of the proposal to tailor the proposed amendments to the data, AI, and cybersecurity rules to EU businesses' real needs, targeting in particular European companies and other stakeholders, such as civil society and the national administrations of the Member States. As per standard stakeholder practice, some third country companies, including from the United States, have sent their contributions to the Commission, even though the Commission focuses on the EU's interest. The stakeholder input received by the Commission is presented publicly⁴ and reported in the Staff Working Document⁵ accompanying the proposal.

In any dialogue with third countries, including with the United States, the Commission has made clear that its regulations and regulatory autonomy are not up for negotiation. The Commission continues to apply European rules equally and fairly to all companies operating in the EU.

¹ The Draghi report on EU competitiveness, https://commission.europa.eu/topics/competitiveness/draghi-report_en.

² Enrico Letta - Much more than a market (April 2024), <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/ny3j24sm/much-more-than-a-market-report-by-enrico-letta.pdf>.

³ Digital Omnibus Regulation Proposal | Shaping Europe's digital future, <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/library/digital-omnibus-regulation-proposal>.

⁴ Simplification – digital package and omnibus, https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/14855-Simplification-digital-package-and-omnibus_en.

⁵ Digital Omnibus Regulation Proposal | Shaping Europe's digital future, <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/library/digital-omnibus-regulation-proposal>.