

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-000217/26
to the Commission
Martin Günther (The Left)
(21 January 2026)**

Subject: EU competitiveness and economic modelling as justification for the Environmental Omnibus

The publication of the Environmental Omnibus package marked the eighth omnibus proposal in 2025 alone. This is a clear and coordinated attack on regulations that safeguard Europe's environment and public health.

I asked this question at the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety hearing with Commissioner Roswall but she failed to answer my question.

This relentless weakening of environmental protection is all in the name of 'competitiveness'. But the Commission presents a false dichotomy between environmental protection and economic competitiveness. The reality is that robust environmental standards drive innovation, create green jobs and provide the regulatory certainty that businesses need to invest for the long term.

Indeed, according to the Commission's own estimates, in its 2025 Environmental Implementation Review, gaps in environmental laws and poor implementation cost the EU EUR 180 billion annually as a result of health and environmental damage.

Given that the Commission is yet again proposing a new omnibus package without a prior impact assessment, what empirical evidence and economic modelling supports the claim that the specific measures in the Omnibus will enhance EU competitiveness, and will the Commission publish these studies?

Submitted: 21.1.2026

**Answer given by Ms Roswall on behalf of the European Commission
(9 March 2026)**

The environmental omnibus package ⁽¹⁾, adopted by the Commission and currently under examination of both co-legislators, contains a set of proposals that focus on reducing administrative burden without affecting the objectives of these laws and the environmental standards.

The set of proposals focus on the 'how' and not on the 'what' with the objective to make the implementation of the laws easier for public and private sector. For this reason, the Commission view is that no assessment of impacts was needed.

However, the package of proposals is accompanied by a Staff Working Document (SWD) ⁽²⁾ explaining the proposed amendments and their impacts in terms of costs savings.

It also gives an overview of the extensive stakeholder consultations held in preparation of the package which also gathered input on the administrative costs and potential savings.

The environmental omnibus package aims to reduce the administrative burden linked to the implementation of the laws, thus help support the implementation by private and public stakeholders so that the respective environmental objectives can be achieved quicker and in a more efficient manner.

⁽¹⁾ https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_25_2997.

⁽²⁾ https://environment.ec.europa.eu/document/download/9cc9e1e8-13c4-45f3-b9bc-90e7e1b8133e_en?filename=SWD_2025_990_1_EN_autre_document_travail_service_part1_v3.pdf.