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E-000457/2026

Answer given by Mr Dombrovskis
on behalf of the European Commission
(15.4.2026)

In 2024, the Union adopted 146 files under the ordinary legislative procedure (82 basic acts and 64 amendments). It is usual for a higher number of adoptions by the European Parliament and the Council to take place in the last year of the legislative term.

The Commission is pursuing an ambitious simplification agenda. This agenda has so far delivered in 2025 EUR 15 billion reduction of administrative costs through ten omnibus proposals and other simplification initiatives, which will reinject annual savings into the real economy. In 2026, half of Commission work programme legislative initiatives have a simplification dimension. This represents concrete progress towards the target to reduce administrative burdens by at least 25% and 35% for small and medium sized enterprises. Moreover, the Commission has deprioritised around 30% of the delegated and implementing acts initially planned for 2026. The Commission will present ideas on how to further improve regulatory simplicity in its upcoming Communication on Better Regulation.

The choice of the legal instruments follows from the nature and scope of the intended policy objectives and the assessment of the proposed measures in the light of the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality, while also considering the widely-shared goal of facilitating implementation and reducing the barriers to the Single Market for businesses and citizens.

The Union acts within the limits of the competences conferred by the Treaties (principle of conferral) and only if and in so far as the objectives of the proposed action cannot be sufficiently achieved by the Member States (principle of subsidiarity).