

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-001785/26  
to the Commission  
Emmanouil Fragkos (ECR)  
(30 April 2026)**

*Subject:* Use of modern technology to deal with the bureaucratic nightmare faced by businesses

Bureaucracy in Greece remains a significant limiting factor for entrepreneurship. The World Bank's Ease of Doing Business index ranks Greece 28th out of the continent's 39 states. According to the OECD Product Market Regulation index (2023-2024), the country is close to the average but continues to face obstacles in the professional services and retail sectors and in state involvement.

The World Economic Forum gives a regulatory burden score of 3.9/7 and 66% of businesses say bureaucracy is a barrier to investment. Regarding administrative efficiency, the figures recorded show public payment delays of 16.7 days and delays of 125 days in public procurement procedures compared to the European average of 74 days.

Meanwhile, entrepreneurship figures show a predominance of very small businesses and low growth dynamics. Overall, the data confirm a clear correlation between administrative burden and limited business activity.

Once a business has been founded, bureaucracy acts like a wall, stopping many before they even get started.

This is the 'mental' index of bureaucracy and economic instability.

When asked: 'Would the fear of failure prevent you from starting a business?', Greece recorded a rate of 55.4%, one of the highest rates globally.

In view of the above, can the Commission say:

Could it work on creating a technological tool that would inform start-ups and other companies of all their obligations towards EU states?

Submitted: 30.4.2026

**Answer given by Executive Vice-President Séjourné on behalf of the European Commission  
(29 July 2026)**

The Commission is aware of the described problems and is actively working on reducing barriers that businesses may face when operating in the Single Market.

One important initiative is the Single Digital Gateway <sup>(1)</sup>, setting out the Your Europe portal as its user interface <sup>(2)</sup>. Your Europe provides citizens and businesses with online access to information on rights, rules and obligations at EU and national level, administrative procedures and assistance services.

It covers key areas linked to starting and doing business cross-border including support opportunities. It also offers the possibility to report an obstacle in the Single Market.

The Your Europe portal receives around 30 million visits annually, while the linked national portals receive over 100 million. The Commission is working with Member States to ensure that the procedures covered by the Single Digital Gateway are offered fully digitally, in the same way for national and cross-border users, and applying the once-only principle.

When fully rolled out the Once-Only Technical System <sup>(3)</sup> will enable public authorities across the EU to exchange documents and data upon request to reduce the burden on businesses of having to resubmit them manually when dealing with an authority in another Member State.

As to starting and operating a business, the relevant EU legislation provides for fully digital procedures to set up companies, register branches and file with business registers, including through once-only principle and other measures such as abolishing apostille <sup>(4)</sup>.

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<sup>(1)</sup> <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:02018R1724-20260520>.

<sup>(2)</sup> [https://europa.eu/youreurope/index\\_en.htm](https://europa.eu/youreurope/index_en.htm).

<sup>(3)</sup> <https://ec.europa.eu/digital-building-blocks/sites/spaces/OOTS/pages/565379323/OOTSHUB+Home>.

<sup>(4)</sup> Digitalisation Directive (EU) 2019/1151 (<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dir/2019/1151/oj/eng>), Cross-Border Mobility Directive (EU) 2019/2121 (<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dir/2019/2121/oj/eng>), Upgrading digital company law Directive (EU) 2025/25 (<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/dir/2025/25/oj/eng>).

The Commission proposals for the ‘EU Inc.’ corporate legal framework <sup>(5)</sup> and for the European Business Wallets <sup>(6)</sup> aim to further facilitate doing business across 27 Member States and reduce fragmentation.

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<sup>(5)</sup> <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex:52026PC0321>.

<sup>(6)</sup> Proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the establishment of European Business Wallets, COM/2025/838 final.