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Answer given by Ms Zaharieva
on behalf of the European Commission
(15.10.2026)

The consultation questionnaire was prepared by Commission services, by the Commission's Interservice Coordination Group established to oversee the work on the initiative and finally approved by the Secretariat-General¹.

In line with tool 53 of the Better Regulation framework (BRF)², the consultation questionnaire strikes the right balance between closed and open questions. Open-text responses and additional targeted fieldwork will contextualise quantitative results, including where questions cover several issues or where respondents consider a measure counterproductive. If a measure is perceived as counterproductive, the respondent should select the 'not effective' option. Suggestions for actions with less adverse effects may be submitted in open-text replies and will be analysed and reported. In all questions there is an option to respond 'Cannot Say' or 'I don't know'. No rating will be applied, if these replies are chosen.

The effectiveness of proposed measures is rated against the Single Basic Act objective specified in each question of Question group 4. The results will be reported based on the effectiveness of the proposed measures in reaching those objectives.

Differences between Joint Undertakings and Article 185 Treaty on the functioning of the EU initiatives will also be considered in the analysis, notwithstanding their common treatment as Treaty-based partnerships for the purposes of the consultation.

The Commission will publish all contributions to this consultation in accordance with the BRF, including a factual summary explaining how open answers were analysed. Respondents can choose whether they prefer to have their details published or to remain anonymous. The type of respondent, country of origin, organisation name and size, and its transparency register number, are always published.

¹ On the review and approval of consultation documents, see European Commission, Better Regulation Toolbox, December 2025, Tool #53, section 2.1, p. 475, and Tool #51, section 2.2, pp. 451–452.

² https://commission.europa.eu/law/law-making-process/better-regulation/better-regulation-guidelines-and-toolbox_en.