



VIDEOCONFERENCE OF MINISTERS IN CHARGE OF INTERNAL MARKET AND INDUSTRY 18 September 2020

On Friday 18 September ministers in charge of internal market and industry will debate via video conference the future policy regarding the EU's Single Market. The video conference will be chaired by Mr. Peter Altmaier, German federal minister for economic affairs and energy.

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The video conference will start at 09.30 and will be concluded before noon. Ministers will discuss how to deepen the single market as a tool for the strong recovery of a competitive and sustainable EU economy.

Press briefing: Thursday 17 September 2020 at 11:00

Press conference:

Friday 18 September at +/- 13:30

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[Competitiveness Council meeting page](#)

[Press conferences and public events by video streaming](#)

[Video coverage in broadcast quality \(MPEG4\) and photo gallery](#)

¹ This note has been drawn up under the responsibility of the press office.

Deepened Single Market for a strong recovery and a competitive, sustainable Europe

Ministers will exchange views on which actions should be given priority in view of strengthening the EU's Single Market and accelerating the recovery of the EU economy after the COVID-19 crisis. The Commission communications of March 2020 on the Single Market will serve as common reference to this debate.

Background

Following an invitation by the March 2019 European Council, the Commission published in March 2020 two communications on the Single Market.

The communication on "Identifying and addressing barriers to the Single Market" lists the top 13 most frequently reported barriers to the functioning of the Single Market, as experienced / perceived by businesses and consumers. In addition, the report lists 5 "root causes" to such barriers and suggests further actions to be taken by the EU and Member States to overcome them.

The communication on the "Long term action plan for better implementation and enforcement of single market rules" lists 22 actions, divided into 6 fields. These actions build on already existing tools and range from providing financial assistance to public administrations to exchanging best practices or to making better use of the existing IT tools and legislative acts.

The closure of national borders by some member states during the COVID-19 crisis caused the partial disruption of some European value chains. Hence the acknowledgment by ministers in June 2020 of the need to act swiftly for the re-establishment, strengthening and deepening of the Single Market.

[Joint statement of ministers responsible for the internal market and industry on the Recovery Plan for Europe](#)

[Commission communication on a long term action plan for better implementation and enforcement of Single Market rules](#)

[Commission communication on identifying and addressing barriers to the Single Market](#)
