



# Together for new growth



## Single Market Act II



This year marks the 20th anniversary of the Single Market. Much has been achieved in that time. From 1992 to 2008 the Single Market has generated 2.77 million extra jobs in the EU and an additional 2.13% in GDP. Consumers in the Single Market enjoy more choice and lower prices - a 75% reduction in mobile phone costs is but one example. Citizens can travel freely, settle and work where they wish. More and more young people study abroad – more than 2.5 million students have done so the last 25 years. The Single Market also means access to 500 million consumers across 27 countries for the 22 million companies of the EU and a stronger position on world markets. In other words, a strong, deep and integrated Single Market creates growth, employment and offers opportunities for European citizens unthinkable 20 years ago. But it is not complete, and some gaps remain.

Today, the Single Market remains a central tool for our common objective of a strong and highly competitive social market economy. More than ever, we need to take advantage of the Single Market to create more growth and jobs, strengthen citizens' and businesses' confidence and deliver concrete day-to-day benefits. We can do this by filling in the remaining gaps, and truly completing the Single Market. The Single Market Act presented by the Commission in April 2011 set out twelve priority actions towards this vision. The Commission has since tabled proposals for these actions, which the European Parliament and Council should adopt rapidly, where this is not yet done.

Given the ongoing economic and social crisis, we must do more. The Commission has therefore launched a "Single Market Act II" with a second set of priority actions. These actions support four drivers for new growth: fully integrated networks in the Single Market, mobility of citizens and businesses across borders, the digital economy and social entrepreneurship, cohesion and consumer confidence.

If implemented swiftly, the Single Market Act II, together with the implementation of the Single Market Act I, will open new paths towards growth, employment and social cohesion for 500 million Europeans. It will show the determination of Europe to create new growth through a common agenda to exit the crisis. Together we need to act quickly and with ambition. We have no time to lose.

**Michel Barnier,**  
Member of the European Commission  
in charge of Internal Market and Services

| Lever | Objective | Means | Key Action | Timing of Commission proposal | Commissioners concerned |
|-------|-----------|-------|------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
|-------|-----------|-------|------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|

### Developing fully integrated networks in the Single Market

|    |                    |  |   |  |         |           |
|----|--------------------|--|---|--|---------|-----------|
| 01 | Rail transport     | Improve service quality and price for rail passengers across the EU  | Open domestic rail passenger services to competition from operators from another Member State   | Adopt a fourth railway package (legislative)   | Q4 2012 | Kallas    |
| 02 | Maritime transport | Promote maritime transport   | Establish a true Single Market for maritime transport by no longer subjecting EU goods transported between EU seaports to administrative and customs formalities that apply to goods arriving from overseas ports | Adopt the "Blue Belt" package consisting of legislative and non-legislative measures   | Q2 2013 | Kallas    |
| 03 | Air transport      | Enhance the safety, efficiency and environmental performance of air transport                                    | Accelerate the implementation of the Single European Sky  | Implement action plan with legislative measures  | Q2 2013 | Kallas    |
| 04 | Energy             | Further integrate the EU energy market to reduce prices, promote renewable energy and improve security of supply | Improve the application of the third energy package   | Implement action plan to enhance the implementation and enforcement of the third energy package and make cross-border markets that benefit consumers a reality | Q4 2012 | Oettinger |

### Fostering mobility of citizens and businesses across borders

|    |                      |   |  |   |         |         |
|----|----------------------|---|--|---|---------|---------|
| 05 | Mobility of citizens | Make it easier for citizens to look for a job in another Member State   | Develop the EURES portal into an EU-wide electronic recruitment, placement and job matching tool | Adopt a Commission legislative Decision establishing a revised EURES Portal | Q4 2012 | Andor   |
| 06 | Access to finance    | Boost long-term investment in the real economy  | Develop a new set of EU rules applicable to investment funds that target long-term investments   | Adopt a legislative proposal  | Q2 2013 | Barnier |
| 07 | Business environment | Help entrepreneurs in difficulty to return to viable business plans and offer a second chance for entrepreneurs | Modernise insolvency rules to ease cross border procedures                                       | Revise EU insolvency rules  | Q4 2012 | Reding  |

### Supporting the digital economy across Europe

|    |   |   |  |   |         |                  |
|----|---|---|--|---|---------|------------------|
| 08 | Services                                  | Facilitate e-commerce and online services and therefore consumer choice and convenience   | Make electronic payment services in the EU more competitive and efficient                            | Revise the Payment Services Directive and make a legislative proposal for multilateral interchange fees | Q2 2013 | Barnier, Almunia |
| 09 | Digital Single Market                     | Improve availability of high speed communication infrastructures for citizens and businesses                                      | Reduce the cost and increase efficiency in the deployment of high speed communication infrastructure | Adopt common rules enabling operators to fully exploit cost-reduction potential of broadband deployment | Q1 2013 | Kroes            |
| 10 | Public procurement & electronic invoicing | Promote electronic invoicing in order to generate savings for administrations and businesses and to help reducing payments delays | Make electronic invoicing the standard invoicing mode for public procurement                         | Adopt legislation on electronic invoicing   | Q2 2013 | Barnier          |

### Strengthening social entrepreneurship, cohesion and consumer confidence

|    |   |  |  |   |         |                |
|----|---|--|--|---|---------|----------------|
| 11 | Consumers                                   | Improve the safety of products consumed in Europe  | Improve the coherence and enforcement of product safety and market surveillance rules  | Adopt a Product Safety Package with legislative and non-legislative actions | Q4 2012 | Tajani, Dalli  |
| 12 | Social cohesion and social entrepreneurship | Ensure that all citizens can have access to a bank account and that clients are able to make an informed choice when choosing their bank | Give all EU citizens access to a basic payment account, ensure bank account fees are transparent and make switching bank accounts easier | Adopt legislative proposals   | Q4 2012 | Barnier, Dalli |

