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## Single Market Information Tool

**Language**

[EN] English

Fields marked with \* are mandatory.

Please note that this questionnaire is intended for public authorities. Questionnaires for other stakeholders are available here ([http://ec.europa.eu/growth/tools-databases/newsroom/cf/itemdetail.cfm?item\\_id=8899](http://ec.europa.eu/growth/tools-databases/newsroom/cf/itemdetail.cfm?item_id=8899)).

### Identification of respondent

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\*Please specify the geographic scope of your work as a public authority

- Local level
- Regional level
- National level
- EU level
- Other

\*Please indicate your preference for the publication of your response on the Commission's website

- Under the name given: I consent to publication of all information in my contribution and I declare that none of it is subject to copyright restrictions that prevent publication
- Anonymously: I consent to publication of all information in my contribution and I declare that none of it is subject to copyright restrictions that prevent publication
- Please keep my contribution confidential: it will not be published, but will be used internally within the Commission

Please note that regardless the option chosen, your contribution may be subject to a request for access to documents under Regulation 1049/2001 on public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents. In this case the request will be assessed against the conditions set out in the Regulation and in accordance with applicable data protection rules.

\*Please provide your full name and the name of the entity on whose behalf you are replying

Ministry of Economic Affairs, the Netherlands

\*Please enter your email address

@

\*Please indicate the country of the entity you represent

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- Belgium
- Bulgaria
- Croatia
- Cyprus
- Czech Republic
- Denmark
- Estonia
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Greece
- Hungary
- Ireland
- Italy
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**\*Please**

indicate the type of the entity that you represent and areas that you cover  
(e.g. statistical office, consumer authority, tax agency, etc.)

Ministry of Economic Affairs

### Availability of information tools

Are you enabled by national law to issue ad hoc requests for information to firms that go beyond what they already report periodically (e.g. in official statistics, financial statements) or is publicly available (e.g. national business registers)? Please limit your response to cases outside competition and tax policy.

- Yes, for the purpose of policy implementation/law enforcement
- Yes, for the purpose of policy development
- No

### The role of information in cases of Single Market malfunctioning

Have you ever encountered a situation when your legislative activity or enforcement of law was limited by the lack of information from firms from other EU Member States operating in your country?

- Yes
- No
- Not applicable

In your opinion, in which cases should public authorities at the European or national level be able to request confidential information from firms (e.g. profit, costs, business strategy, contract details, relations with suppliers or providers)? Please limit your answer to cases in which authorities cannot obtain information through other means, including periodic reports such as corporate tax statements, social security records, or census statistics.

- When the information is crucial for resolving a breach of consumers' or firms' EU rights (such as equal treatment, freedom of movement, provision of services, establishment, and other situations with a strong cross-border context)
- When the information is crucial for preventing future breaches of consumers' or firms' EU rights by reviewing existing or preparing new EU rules
- Other
- Never

### Attachments

Please upload any documents that you would like to attach to your reply.

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#### Explanatory statement of the Netherlands on the response to the questionnaire on the Single Market Information Tool:

Following the publication of the Commission's strategy for the Single Market (October 2015), which included the announcement of the intended development of a Single Market Information Tool (SMIT), the Netherlands has expressed its general support for the initiatives of the Commission to further strengthen the Single Market, including the enforcement of the Single Market.

The Netherlands feels it is essential to improve implementation and strengthen enforcement of existing Single Market rules. We should put more effort towards delivering on promises instead of promises on delivery. This will require efforts both from the Member States and the Commission, by placing more emphasis on the most distorting barriers and infringements, even though these are often the most sensitive.

Due to the set-up of the questionnaire on the SMIT, our positive outlook on strengthening Single Market enforcement could not be reflected in the response to the questionnaire. The Netherlands has strived to provide answers in a factual manner without prejudging a possible SMIT proposal. We are awaiting the proposal for the SMIT and will come with a more detailed position in due course.

