

2025 ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

Simplification, Implementation & Enforcement

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for Democracy, Justice, the Rule of Law,
and Consumer Protection



1. Introduction

Guided by the principles in my Mission Letter and the 'A Simpler and Faster Europe' Communication, I have consistently aimed to streamline and accelerate Europe's operations and interactions with its citizens in my role as Commissioner responsible for democracy, justice, the rule of law, and consumer protection.

The policies under my portfolio contribute to achieving clear specific objectives for the EU:

- The justice system is adapted to the challenges and opportunities of the digitalisation transition: a modern and effective European area of justice with enhanced judicial cooperation in civil and criminal matters
- Improved conditions for companies, including SMEs, through EU company law and corporate governance rules, to set up, attract investment and grow sustainably in the Single Market
- A more effective fight against violations of EU restrictive measures
- Consumers are empowered and better protected
- Strengthened rule of law in the EU
- Strengthened protection of fundamental rights
- An improved framework to protect democracy in the EU

Simplification is a guiding principle when preparing the wide range of tools to achieve these objectives (such as targeted legislative actions, non-legislative actions, policy initiatives, dedicated funding programmes and implementation and enforcement tools). This **Annual Progress Report on Simplification, Implementation and Enforcement** presents these actions undertaken in the first half of this year (January – July 2025). I am looking forward to discussing the findings of this report with the co-legislators.

2. Executive Summary

In the first half of 2025, I contributed to the simplification agenda and to the first Omnibus packages planned in the Commission Work Programme 2025 with two main proposals under my portfolio. In February 2025, as part of the **first omnibus package on corporate sustainability reporting and due diligence requirements**, the Commission proposed changes to simplify and streamline the due diligence duties of companies, reducing the regulatory burden while preserving the underlying policy objective of promoting the transition towards a sustainable economic model. Secondly, as part of the **fourth omnibus package on small mid-caps requirements** presented in May 2025, I proposed a targeted amendment of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) record-keeping obligation. I also engaged in dialogues with stakeholders to assess the effectiveness of policies and ensure that EU rules are more easily implementable and beneficial across all business sectors. In July 2025, I initiated the first two implementation dialogues focused on key priorities within my portfolio, specifically the simplification of consumer law in the digital environment and of the application of the GDPR.

The effective implementation and enforcement of EU laws and policies is crucial for ensuring that they achieve their intended goals and that individuals and businesses can benefit from a level playing field and common standards. With the support of the Directorate-General 'Justice and Consumers' (DG JUST), I am continuously promoting the extensive use of implementation tools in the policy areas for which I am responsible, and several enforcement actions have been taken in the first half of 2025. Key examples are described in this report.

3. Delivering Results: Key Measures

A. Simplification and stress tests

Simplification initiatives and initiatives with a strong simplification angle

As part of my commitment to contribute to the simplification packages, a first proposal was tabled in February 2025 to amend the Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive with the **first omnibus package on corporate sustainability reporting and due diligence requirements**. The aim of this proposal is to reduce the regulatory burden stemming from the Directive while preserving the underlying policy objective of promoting the transition towards a sustainable economic model. The proposed changes simplify and streamline the due diligence duties, limit the requirements for stakeholder engagement, reduce the number and frequency of resource-intensive assessments, and strengthen the protection for smaller business partners (SMEs and small mid-caps) that may be indirectly impacted by the due diligence requirements of large companies in the scope of the Directive. At the same time, the application of the rules to the first set of companies has been postponed by one year and it is proposed to issue the main Commission guidelines ahead of schedule, which together will give companies more time to prepare for implementation. It is estimated that the proposed changes will reduce costs by approximately EUR 320 million per year (in addition to a one-off saving of EUR 60 million).

As part of the **fourth omnibus package on small mid-caps requirements**, presented on 21 May 2025, a **targeted amendment on the GDPR record-keeping obligation** was proposed. The amendment would extend the scope of the derogation from the obligation so that, in addition to SMEs and organisations with less than 250 employees, it would cover also small mid-caps (SMCs) and organisations with less than 750 employees. It would also raise the threshold and simplify the rules for maintaining records of processing so that it would be mandatory for SMEs, SMCs and organisations with less than 750 employees to maintain records only for those processing activities that are likely to result in a 'high risk' to data subjects' rights and freedoms.

The new **Upgrading Digital Company Law Directive** (EU) 2025/25, to be transposed by Member States by 31 July 2027, will reduce administrative burden for companies by an estimated more than EUR 400 million per year. It will remove formalities, such as apostille and simplify cross-border procedures through digital solutions, including applying the once-only principle so that companies do not resubmit information when they set up subsidiaries or branches in other Member States. It will also introduce the multilingual digital EU Company Certificate (an EU level corporate identity card).

Stress testing, including screening of implementing and delegated acts

I have instructed DG JUST to take a multi-annual approach to stress-test the relevant acquis until the end of the mandate. I am also reflecting on future simplification proposals and assessing the potential for simplification in different policy areas, by taking a strategic and holistic approach to the stress-testing of the body of laws (acquis) within my responsibility.

Taking into account stakeholders' views regularly collected in my exchanges with them and by DG JUST in technical level meetings, as well as consultations, evaluations, fitness-checks and studies, relevant reports, such as the Draghi and Letta reports, policy cycle and recent amendments in the given policy area, the following policy areas were prioritised for stress-testing in 2025: **company law, data protection** and **consumer law**.

In addition, the following evaluations have been published in 2025 or are ongoing, and in line with better regulation rules all of them systematically consider simplification and burden reduction:

Evaluation: Regulation (EU) 2018/1727 on the European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation (Eurojust), and replacing and repealing Council Decision 2002/187/JHA – published on 2 July 2025. The evaluation identified

potential areas for simplification in governance, working practices, decision-making and leadership, which could lead to efficiency gains.

Evaluation: Regulation (EC) 805/2004 creating a European Enforcement Order for uncontested claims – ongoing. Evaluation: Regulation (EU) 2017/1939 implementing enhanced cooperation on the establishment of the European Public Prosecutor's Office ('the EPPO') – ongoing

Evaluation: Directive (EU) 2019/1937 on the protection of persons who report breaches of Union law - ongoing.

My portfolio consists of a wide body of EU acts, of which many include empowerment provisions for the Commission to adopt delegated and implementing acts. I am committed to using them 'in an efficient, transparent manner and in justified cases, as they are an integral tool for Better Law-Making, contributing to simple, up-to-date legislation and its efficient, swift implementation'. 20 delegated and implementing acts are planned in 2025-2026. Following a thorough assessment of these acts, I did not propose any acts to be deprioritised as these acts are in a vast majority legally required by a given deadline and needed for the functioning of the basic act, e.g. to define technical specifications for IT tools mandated by the basic act, with some of them contributing to the simplification objectives.

B. Implementation

I am committed to strengthening the cooperation with Member States and stakeholders to facilitate and streamline the implementation of EU law. Towards that goal, DG JUST is developing its general implementation and enforcement strategy for the next five years, covering the different aspects of its implementation and enforcement activities.

DG JUST is systematically reaching out to central coordination authorities for implementation and enforcement in the Member States, to discuss best practices and identify/resolve bottlenecks in communication and implementation.

DG JUST is currently making extensive use of implementation tools in the policy areas for which it is responsible, as illustrated below with some key examples.

A new plan for Europe's sustainable prosperity and competitiveness

An explanatory document has been prepared for the **Upgrading Digital Company Law Directive** (EU)2025/25 and transposition workshops are planned for 2026. Moreover, for the **Directive on multiple vote share structures in companies** (EU) 2024/2810, an explanatory document and a transposition roadmap have been prepared, and a transposition workshop was held in June 2025.

DG JUST is also preparing, together with the Directorate -General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology (DG CNECT), a **Recommendation with model contractual terms for data sharing and standard contractual clauses for cloud computing** to support companies in exercising their rights and obligations under the Data Act. The primary purpose of these models is to help enterprises, in particular SMEs, to draft, negotiate and conclude contracts that contain fair, reasonable and non-discriminatory contractual rights and obligations.

DG JUST is actively steering the work towards the implementation of decentralised IT systems in the field of judicial cooperation and the operationalisation of the **European Criminal Records Information System** - Third Country Nationals (ECRIS-TCN), working closely with experts from Member States.

From 1 May 2025 the competent authorities under the **Service of Documents** Regulation (EU) 2020/1784 and **Taking of Evidence** Regulation (EU) 2020/1783 are obliged to communicate and exchange requests through the

¹ Interinstitutional Agreement between the European Parliament, the Council of the European Union and the European Commission on Better Law-Making, OJ L 123, 12 May 2016

dedicated decentralised IT systems. For these purposes, the Commission has developed a reference implementation software that Member States may decide to implement nationally to connect to the decentralised IT systems and has provided technical support and training to all Member States in the implementation process to help them set up the IT systems nationally.

Furthermore, the **Digitalisation Regulation** (EU) 2023/2844 seeks to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of judicial procedures and to facilitate access to justice by digitalising the existing communication channels - in cross-border judicial cooperation - in civil and criminal matters under 24 legal acts. The implementing work of a decentralised IT system is being carried out progressively, divided into 4 groups (batches) of legal acts. Implementation work is ongoing with regard to the first two "batches", comprising 11 legal acts. At the same time, DG JUST is working on establishing the European electronic access point which will contain information for natural and legal persons on their right to legal aid, and through which they will be able to interact with the competent authorities.

A political agreement was reached in June 2025 on the **GDPR procedural rules Regulation**. This regulation will deliver quicker and smoother enforcement of complex cross-border cases by national data protection authorities. Furthermore, adequacy decisions adopted under the **GDPR** and the **Law Enforcement Directive** (EU) 2016/680 contribute to simplification by enabling the free flow of personal data to third countries with equivalent data protection standards. This not only significantly reduces legal complexity, lowers compliance costs and cuts administrative burden, particularly for SMEs but it also boosts digital trade.

On 16 July, I held an **Implementation Dialogue on the application of the General Data Protection Regulation**. The objective of the Implementation Dialogue was to collect stakeholders' views and ideas on the possible need and ways to simplify and improve the application of the GDPR, keeping in mind that these should not result in lowering the high level of data protection in the EU. Overall, stakeholders considered that the GDPR is a balanced legal framework which has met its objectives. While stakeholders cautioned against a general reopening of the GDPR, some industry representatives suggested targeted measures including possible amendments to the rules to enhance clarity of certain concepts or simplifying obligations for data controllers, insisting on the respect of the GDPR risk-based principle, notably as regards AI and other new technologies. I reaffirmed the Commission's commitment to high standards of data protection and to a balanced approach that both fosters innovation and protects fundamental rights. Further summary conclusions can be found on the <u>Implementation Dialogue website</u>.

A new era for European defence and security

I am committed to taking forward the work of the **Freeze and Seize Task Force**, the 30th meeting of which was organised on 9 July and discussed, among others, the state of play of the implementation of the **Directive on the criminalisation of sanctions violations** (EU) 2024/1226. DG JUST had also held previous meetings to ensure the complete and timely transposition of the Directive in the context of the Freeze and Seize Task Force (September 2024 and February 2025).

Supporting people, and strengthening our societies and our social models

DG JUST organised three transposition workshops for the **Directive on credit agreements for consumers** (EU) 2023/2225. These workshops also included two mini-seminars on debt advice and on financial education, where several Member States presented their best national practices. DG JUST also held a transposition workshop for **Directive on financial services contracts concluded at a distance** (EU) 2023/2673 to ensure its timely and correct transposition.

In 2025, DG JUST organised the second transposition workshop with Member States regarding the **Directive on** promoting **the repair of goods** (EU) 2024/1799 and continued to work on the development of the **European online repair platform**. With the EU-financed Consumer Law Ready project to create capacity for training SMEs across the Union on EU consumer law, ongoing since 2017, we have reached thousands of SMEs around Europe. In

the last 18 months (2024-mid 2025), 496 multipliers (local trainers), as well as representatives from SMEs, received the training. The project was recently extended until December 2026.

On 15 July I held an **Implementation Dialogue on consumer protection in the digital environment** with stakeholders representing consumers and user associations, company and business association representatives and enforcement authorities. Overall, stakeholders recognised the relevance of the horizontal EU consumer law framework and the importance of upholding the **high standards of EU consumer protection also in the digital environment**. Some stressed the importance of striking the right balance between consumer protection and competitiveness. Participants called on the Commission to reduce fragmentation of rules, with some calling for further legal harmonisation. The Commission should clarify the interplay between consumer law and other legislation applicable in the digital sphere. Most participants called for more effective enforcement to ensure effectiveness of the legislation and protection also for businesses from unfair traders and unfair competition. While businesses supported all suggested simplification measures, such as reduced consumer information for repeat purchases from the same trader, consumer representatives warned that the proposed measures could lead to a reduced level of protection. I concluded informing that the identified possible simplification measures and additional suggestions put forward by stakeholders will be explored in the context of the Impact Assessment for the Digital Fairness Act. Further summary conclusions can be found on the Implementation Dialogue website.

Protecting our democracy, upholding our values

The <u>European Media Freedom Act</u> **(EMFA)**, which fully <u>entered into application</u> in August 2025, strengthens media freedom and pluralism within the EU's internal market. It notably provides safeguards against political interference in editorial decisions and against surveillance of journalists and media service providers. EMFA also guarantees that media can operate more easily in the internal market and online. Prior to entry into application of EMFA, the Commission has engaged with Member States both at political and technical level to assist them and facilitate implementation. This engagement included taking stock of Member States' national laws and ongoing implementation efforts, as well as discussing any specific issue with national administrations. The successful implementation of EMFA is a Commission priority and requires different mechanisms, bodies and procedures to be in place at national level to allow direct enforceability of the rules. Member States need to implement EMFA as a matter of urgency. The **European Board for Media Services**, set up by EMFA, was established in February 2025.

Over the reporting period Commission Services have also started working on the Commission's guidelines to facilitate the effective implementation of the functionality set out in Article 18 of EMFA. The Commission gathered feedback and input from relevant stakeholders through a targeted consultation which took place in June - July 2025.

The Commission adopted explanatory documents to support Member States with the implementation of **the Directive on the protection of the environment through criminal law** (EU) 2024/1203 and organised two transposition workshops for this Directive as well as the **Directive on Strategic lawsuits against public participation** (EU) 2024/1069.

To foster harmonisation and in turn create burden reduction for service providers across the Union, as required by Articles 11 and 12 of **Regulation 2024/900 on transparency and targeting of political advertising**, on 9 July 2025 the Commission adopted the Implementing Regulation 2025/1410 on the format, template and technical specifications of the labels and transparency notices. The Commission will also adopt guidelines to assist competent authorities in their enforcement activities, as well as different actors in ensuring compliance with their obligations under that Regulation.

To help Member States prepare for the implementation and application of the new **e-evidence Directive** (EU) 2023/1544 and **Regulation** (EU) 2023/1543 (deadlines respectively on 18 February and 18 August 2026), the Commission organised several workshops with Member States experts that helped participants to have a better understanding of the provisions of these instruments and allowed them to exchange best practices.

In parallel, progress is being made towards establishing a similar decentralised IT system under the **e-Evidence Regulation** (EU) 2023/1543, designed to ensure fast, secure, and reliable communication between competent authorities and between competent authorities and service providers for the purposes of prompt and efficient access to electronic evidence, essential in the fight against cross-border crime. This work is based on regular input from an expert group composed not only of Member States experts, but also of representatives of service providers and industry associations selected pursuant to a call for expression of interest.

Work has also commenced on establishing the decentralised IT system under the **Regulation on the transfer of criminal proceedings** (EU) 2024/3011. Communication between competent authorities of Member States through the decentralised IT system will ensure smooth, secure, and efficient exchange of information necessary for handling of cross-border criminal proceedings.

The Commission's sixth annual **Rule of Law Report** was adopted on 8 July 2025. The Report, which is at the centre of an annual cycle of monitoring and dialogue, is a cornerstone of the Commission's efforts to uphold the rule of law, which is essential for the uniform and transparent application of EU law. Under its new mandate, the Commission has committed to improve monitoring and reporting, and to strengthen checks and balances, notably by tracking the implementation of the Report's recommendations, which support Member States in their reform efforts and point out where challenges need to be addressed. The Commission has therefore intensified its engagement throughout the year with Member States, at both political and technical level, to support the implementation of the recommendations. Respect for the rule of law is also essential for the proper functioning and resilience of the Single Market. Therefore, following the announcement in the Political Guidelines, the 2025 Report is giving a particular emphasis to the Single Market dimension, monitoring developments across Member States.

C. Enforcement

In line with the Communication 'A Simpler and Faster Europe', the Commission has pursued resolute enforcement action and launched infringement procedures, where appropriate. The Commission referred cases to Court, at times requesting financial sanctions, whenever support measures and cooperation – often also via a structured dialogue – with the Member States did not allow for a positive outcome. These actions are summarised in this chapter and further details on all the below mentioned cases can be found in the Europa website.

In the area of **criminal law (procedural and substantive) and judicial cooperation in criminal matters**, a number of infringement proceedings were opened by the Commission to ensure the complete and correct transposition of the relevant *acquis*. Most of these proceedings are satisfactorily closed during the early stages of the proceedings, since the Member States take action to resolve the issues identified. Looking at enforcement action in the area taken in the first half of 2025, the Commission sent an additional reasoned opinion to <u>Bulgaria</u> for failing to correctly transpose the <u>Directive on the right to information in criminal proceedings (EU) 2012/13</u> and a reasoned opinion to <u>Poland</u> for failing to correctly transpose the <u>Directive on the right</u> of access to a lawyer and to communicate upon arrest (Directive <u>2013</u>/48/EU) into its national legislation. It also decided to send a reasoned opinion to <u>Poland</u>, and to refer <u>Bulgaria</u> and <u>Slovakia</u> to the Court of Justice of the European Union, for failing to correctly transpose the <u>Directive on the right of access to a lawyer (EU) 2013/48</u>. Furthermore, the Commission sent letters of formal notice to <u>The Netherlands</u>, <u>Portugal</u>, <u>Italy and Lithuania</u> for failing to correctly transpose the <u>Directive on the strengthening of the presumption of innocence (EU) 2016/343</u>, and issued reasoned opinions to <u>The Netherlands</u>, <u>Slovakia</u> and <u>Finland</u> for failing to fully transpose the <u>Directive on procedural safeguards for children in criminal proceedings (EU) 2016/800</u>. In July, a reasoned decision was addressed to <u>Bulgaria</u> for incorrect transposition of the <u>Directive on the right to interpretation and translation in criminal proceedings (EU) 2010/64</u>.

As regards the <u>Framework Decision 2002/584 on the European Arrest Warrant</u> the Commission decided to refer <u>Poland</u> and <u>Sweden</u> to the Court of Justice of the European Union for failing to comply with it, and sent reasoned opinions to <u>Ireland</u>, <u>Slovenia</u>, <u>Czechia</u>, <u>Germany</u>, <u>Croatia</u> and <u>Latvia</u> for incorrect transposition of its provisions. In

July, the Commission opened infringement proceedings against 18 Member States for full or partial non-communication of the measures transposing the Directive on the criminalisation of sanctions violations (EU) 2024/1226. When it comes to **civil and commercial policy**, the European Commission also sent a letter of formal notice to Malta for failing to comply with its obligations under the Regulation on jurisdiction and the recognition and enforcement of judgments in civil and commercial matters (EU) 2012/1215.

In the field of **consumer protection**, the Commission sent a letter of formal notice to <u>France</u> for failure to correctly transpose the <u>Package Travel Directive (EU) 2015/2302</u>, and to <u>Belgium</u> for failing to correctly transpose the rules on price reductions provided in the <u>Modernisation Directive (EU) 2019/2161</u>. The Commission also initiated a pre-infringement dialogue with Finland to assess a potential breach of the <u>Directive on alternative dispute resolution for consumer disputes (EU) 2013/11</u>.

In the area of **fundamental rights**, the Commission sent reasoned opinions to <u>Ireland</u> and <u>Finland</u> for failing to comply with provisions of the <u>Council Framework Decision on combating racism and xenophobia by means of criminal law 2008/913</u>. The Court of Justice of the EU imposed financial sanctions on <u>five Member States</u>² for failing to transpose the <u>Whistleblowers Protection Directive (EU) 2019/1937</u>. Moreover, <u>five infringement cases</u> for failure to transpose the Whistleblowers Protection Directive were also closed. As regards the case in relation to the <u>Sovereignty Law</u> against Hungary, the President of the Court of Justice accepted the request of the Commission to determine the case pursuant to an expedited procedure provided for in Article 133 of the Rules of Procedure of the Court.

In the area of **EU citizenship and free movement**, the Commission sent letters of formal notice to 11 Member States for failing to communicate full transposition of the Council Directive establishing a uniform EU Emergency Travel Document (EU) 2019/997 ('EU ETD') and the accompanying Commission Delegated Directive (EU) 2024/1986. Additionally, the Commission sent reasoned opinions to Germany, Luxembourg and Poland for failing to transpose the EU ETD and the accompanying Commission Delegated Directive (EU)2024/1986. It also sent an additional letter of formal notice to Poland for incorrectly transposing the Free Movement Directive 2004/38/EC. Moreover, the Commission opened a pre-infringement dialogue with Spain to assess the compliance with EU Law of its national provisions on the loss of Spanish nationality. On 29 April 2025, the Court of Justice of the EU ruled that the Maltese investor citizenship scheme is contrary to EU law following an infringement procedure initiated by the Commission.

In the field of **company law**, the European Commission followed up on two citizens' complaints and sent a letter of formal notice to <u>Italy</u> for failing to correctly transpose the <u>Shareholder Rights Directive 2007/36/EC</u>.

4. Way forward

Supported by DG JUST, I will continue our efforts to make the EU faster and simpler. In the next 12 months, work will focus in particular on the following areas:

GDPR, where building on the results of the implementation dialogue on the application of the GDPR, DG JUST will follow up on the main conclusions and identify possible targeted amendments.

The preparation of the 28th Regime proposal, expected for adoption in first quarter of 2026, to provide simpler, more flexible and faster procedures to help companies - in particular innovative companies - to set up and operate in the EU and to help them attract investment.

² The CJEU already imposed sanctions on Poland on 25 April 2024.

The 2030 Consumer Agenda will include relevant simplification and burden reduction elements in the area of consumer policy, aiming at clarifying consumer protection rules, reducing unnecessary administrative burden and enabling companies to operate in a fair and predictable environment, all while maintaining robust consumer protection standards. (Planned adoption date: 29 October 2025)

The Digital Fairness Act, which will address specific and identified gaps in consumer protection in the digital environment and ensure a level-playing field for traders, will also include a simplification and burden reduction element, looking into in the areas identified in the Fitness Check and additional suggestions put forward by stakeholders in the implementation dialogue and in the public consultation.

Based on the multi-annual stress test approach, in the next 12-month period, DG JUST will stress test the following legal instruments:

- Regulation (EU) No 1215/2012 on jurisdiction and the recognition and enforcement of judgments in civil and commercial matters (Brussels Ia) feeding into the review due 2027
- Regulation (EU) 2017/1939 implementing enhanced cooperation on the establishment of the European Public Prosecutor's Office ('the EPPO') taking into account the forthcoming evaluation report
- Seven judicial cooperation instruments in criminal matters covered by a study on Lisbonisation (Framework Decision 2002/584 on the European Arrest Warrant, Framework Decision 2005/214 on financial penalties, Framework Decision 2008/909 on transfer of sentences, Framework Decision 2008/947 on alternatives to detention, Framework Decision 2008/675 on taking into account previous convictions, Framework Decision 2009/187 on conflicts of jurisdiction, Framework Decision 2009/829 on supervision measures)

Preparatory work is being carried out for the evaluation of Directive 2007/36/EC on the exercise of certain rights of shareholders in listed companies, amended by Directive (EU) 2017/828 (Shareholder Rights Directive), back-to-back with an impact assessment on a potential revision of the directive.

The Commission will continue to pursue resolute and swift enforcement action in all the areas in its remit and, as a matter of priority, will start infringements related to recently adopted EU measures that increase the competitiveness of the EU Single Market.

Annex: examples

This section presents practical and concrete examples of simplification and implementation results.

- 1. As part of the first omnibus package on sustainable finance reporting and sustainability due diligence, the co-legislators already adopted a directive postponing the entry into application of the Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive (CSDDD) by one year (so-called Stop-the-clock Directive). This not only provides more time for companies (both in scope and business partners) to prepare for implementation, but it will also, together with the proposed advancement of the general due diligence guidelines, create a two year-period between the availability of those guidelines and entry into application, thereby allowing companies to benefit from more detailed guidance in their preparation.
- 2. Safety Gate, the European Union's rapid alert system for dangerous non-food products, enables swift information exchange on measures taken against dangerous products on the Single Market. Over the past two years, the number of alerts shared by the Market Surveillance Authorities through Safety Gate has nearly doubled to reach 4124 in 2024, reflecting stronger enforcement across the Single Market. At the same time, there has been a significant rise in the number of individuals subscribing to receive weekly email updates with dangerous products from the Safety Gate portal, demonstrating greater public awareness and engagement in product safety.

- 3. The Consumer Safety Gateway, launched with the entry into application of the General Product Safety Regulation on 13 December 2024, offers a simplified and accessible way for consumers to report dangerous non-food products, purchased online or in-store within the Single Market. If a product causes harm or poses a safety risk under normal use, the report is transmitted to the relevant national authority. This streamlined reporting mechanism empowers consumers to actively contribute to product safety oversight, speeds up the identification and removal of hazardous products, and strengthens cross-border coordination, delivering faster and more consistent protection for all EU consumers.
- 4. The eSurveillance webcrawler is an Al-powered tool developed by the European Commission to strengthen market surveillance in the digital space. It automatically scans web shops and online marketplaces in all official EU/EEA languages to detect products that have already been flagged in the Safety Gate system but are still being sold or have reappeared for sale. By continuously monitoring the online market, eSurveillance enables authorities to act faster and more efficiently, reducing consumer exposure to known hazardous products. In the first half of 2025, the eSurveillance webcrawler has inspected more than 800 000 offers of products sold online and has alerted the Member State's authorities about thousands of detected products.
- 5. The Commission has developed a reference implementation software for the national authorities, under the Service of Documents Regulation (EU) 2020/1784 and Taking of Evidence Regulation (EU) 2020/1783, for the purposes of communication and exchange of requests through dedicated decentralised IT systems. 25 Member States have decided to implement the reference implementation software nationally to connect to the decentralised IT systems under these Regulations. The Commission has provided technical support and training to all Member States in the implementation process to help them set up the IT systems nationally (regardless of whether they decided to use the reference implementation software or connect their national systems to the decentralised IT systems).