



SINGLE MARKET

PERFORMANCE REPORT 2019



The Single Market Performance Report assesses the benefits of the Single Market for its citizens and for the European economy. The report allows for a better integration of reforms at the Single Market level with national reforms resulting from the European semester in the framework of the EU sustainable growth strategy.

The Single Market ranks at the top among the greatest accomplishments of European integration. For over 25 years, it has been delivering growth, jobs, legal certainty to business, a wide choice of safe products to consumers and guaranteeing the free movement to EU citizens in the Member States. It is part of our daily life, interweaving the activities of businesses and consumers across borders.

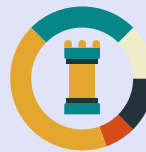
The Single Market supports the four pillars of the EU Annual Sustainable Growth Strategy

ENVIRONMENT



- Providing environmental standards with global projection
- Environmentally sound regulation in key industries

STABILITY



- Fostering convergence
- Stability, integration and governance of financial markets

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FAIRNESS



- Fostering integration and cohesion across Member States
- Ensuring the respect of Europeans as citizens and consumers

PRODUCTIVITY



- Creating incentives for innovation and investment
- Providing a wider variety of safe and lower price goods and services to all

Key findings

- Goods markets present a high level of integration but evidence shows that compliance and market supervision must be strengthened to improve the benefits of trade, productivity and product safety.
- Services present the highest potential for further integration of the Single Market. Improving competition and removing disproportionate regulatory restrictions, particularly in some business services, retail and construction, will help to improve its overall performance.
- Ensuring high standards of environmental protection and product safety is a major component of the integration and performance of the Single Market and a key driver of the EU sustainability agenda.
- The Single Market contributes significantly to the digitalisation of Europe's economy but its lasting performance requires the reinforcement and further development of the current EU-wide digital ecosystem.
- EU financial services legislation helped resume integration of capital markets after the financial crisis and has the potential to reach deeper capital market integration in the EU.