

Industry backs Commission ambition for ‘better regulation’

The Commission has today adopted a [Communication on Better Regulation](#), proposing several improvements to the EU law-making process. FoodDrinkEurope has made the following statement:

(Brussels, 29 April 2021) The European Commission’s ambition to put better regulation principles at the heart of the policymaking process is a significant step to ensuring that lawmakers make evidence-based and objective decisions.

The Commission’s communication introduces the “one in-one out” principle to ensure that any newly introduced regulatory burdens are offset by removing equivalent burdens in the same policy area – this is particularly important for small and medium-sized enterprises. It also includes a proposal to improve the current stakeholder consultation system.

Impact assessments, evaluations, supporting instruments and the independent quality control provided by the Regulatory Scrutiny Board are key tools to translate evidence and stakeholder input into objective analysis supporting political decision-making.

While progress has been achieved in several areas in the past years, continued commitment and further improvements are still necessary. The Commission’s better regulation tools should ensure that individual measures are evaluated against their own objectives, but that is currently not always the case with some EU legislation adopted without proper impact assessment and despite considerable impacts on the food and drink sector, among others.

We call on the European Commission to ensure that better regulation tools are applied systematically throughout the entire policy cycle and we call on the three EU institutions to share a joint responsibility in delivering better regulation, by simplifying and reducing unnecessary burdens without affecting policy objectives.

FoodDrinkEurope remains committed to providing industry input in impact assessment processes, stakeholder consultations and other fora to make better regulation happen in practice.

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Note to the editors:



STATEMENT

FoodDrinkEurope represents the food and drink manufacturing industry. Made up of 291,000 businesses and 4.8 million employees, the food and drink industry buys 70% of all EU agricultural produce and is Europe's largest manufacturing industry.