



Better Regulation

**EESC Meeting of the Single Market, Production and
Consumption Section**

03 March 2015

Political Guidelines 2014

**Political Guidelines
"Agenda for Jobs,
Growth, Fairness and
Democratic Change":**

FVP Mission Letter

- **Focus on 10 policy areas where the EU can make a real difference – deliver concrete results**
- **Leave other policy areas to Member States where they can act more effectively**
- **An EU that is more ambitious on big things and smaller and more modest on small things**
- **"Take stock of experience and report to the College within 12 months on how the approach to Better Regulation could be strengthened"**

Better Regulation: A key priority

- **Commission Structure:** Vice Presidents
- **Planning:** CWP 2015; Regulatory Fitness Programme (REFIT) Actions
- **Policy Preparation:** Guidelines; Regulatory Scrutiny Board; REFIT actions
- **Legislative Process:** Inter-Institutional Agreement on Better-Lawmaking
- **Implementation:** strengthen cooperation with Member States

Better Regulation: The Foundations



2015 CWP New initiatives

- € 315 billion Investment Package
- An ambitious Digital Single Market package
- Creating a European Energy Union
- A New Policy on Migration
- A Fair Taxation Environment



Cutting Red Tape

Regulatory Fitness: REFIT

- Identify burdens, inconsistencies, gaps and ineffective measures across acquis ('Mapping')
- Take action: withdraw, repeal, simplify, improve
- Assess: evaluations and Fitness Checks
- Consult: Involve Stakeholders
- Track Progress: Scoreboard



Regulatory Fitness and Performance Programme ("REFIT")

- **Annual screenings of the EU's regulatory acquis**
- **79 REFIT initiatives in CWP 2015**
- **Scoreboard of +/- 185 individual initiatives**
 - Simplification Proposals with Legislator: +/-50
 - New simplification initiatives in preparation: +/-30
 - Evaluations and Fitness checks: 60 planned; 20 un
 - 10 Withdrawals and 15 Repeals.



Clearing the decks

450 proposals from past legislature of which 80 suggested for withdrawal:

- 73 = withdrawn
- 3 = withdrawn if no agreement in legislative procedure within six months,
- 3 = amended
- 1 = evaluated





The Commission IA system

Integrated approach

- All benefits and costs.
- Economic, social and environmental impacts.

Wide scope

- All initiatives with significant impacts, from policy defining proposals to implementing measures

Transparency

- Publication of Roadmaps, IAs and IAB opinions
- Comprehensive stakeholder consultation

Impact Assessment Board = Regulatory Scrutiny Board

Results so far ...

- More than 680 IAs, over 900 IAB opinions since 2007
- 2010 ECA audit found that:
 - **The Commission's IA system is effective in supporting EU decision making**
 - **No other system has a similar comprehensive approach**
 - **Consultations with stakeholders are widely used**
 - **The IAB is contributing to quality of proposals**
 - **IA reports comply with the IA guidelines**
- Findings confirmed by more recent studies (EP „Matrix“ study, CEPS study, OECD)



Stakeholder Consultation

- **Wide scope: Treaty obligation** to carry out broad consultations with parties concerned before making a policy proposal.
- **Transparency and outreach:** Early warning on consultation plans provided in **roadmaps**. Open public consultations posted at **single access portal** 'Your Voice in Europe'. Contributions of respondents published and **feedback** provided in summary and IA reports.
- **Rules: General principles and minimum standards** for consulting external parties. Strengthened provisions in **IA context** - stakeholders to be consulted on all key aspects of analysis.
- **12-week public consultation on impact assessment.**

Evaluation



- Stronger focus on regulatory measures
- "Evaluate First Principle"
- More attention to broader areas of legislation and cross-cutting issues (via Fitness Checks)
- More attention to infringement patterns
- Pilot joint evaluations with Member States

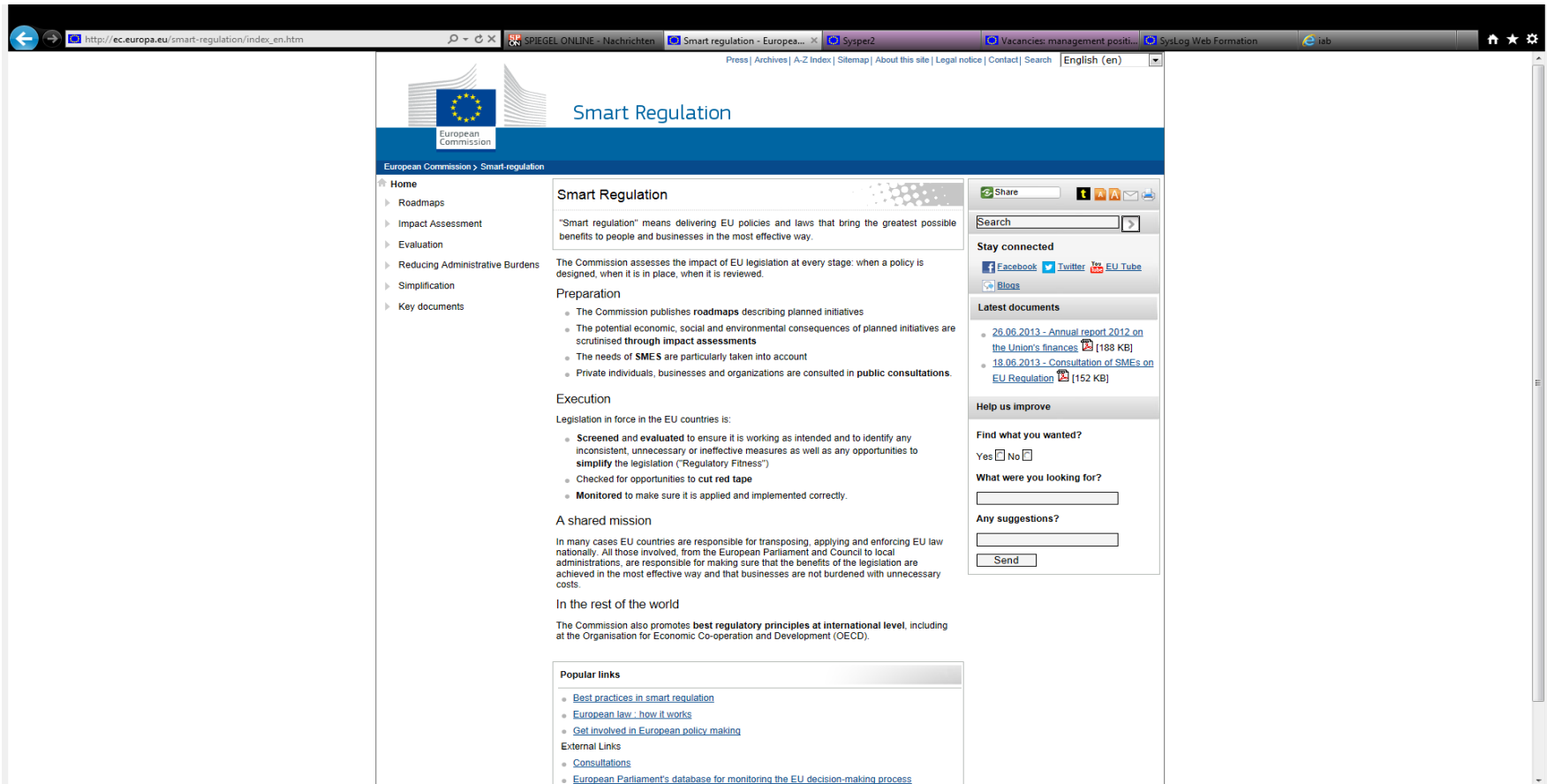
Strengthening internal practice to further improve ..

- Scrutiny of proportionality, subsidiarity
- SME test and competitiveness proofing
- Quantitative assessment (i.e. for EU added value)
- Transparency and Consultation: Mandatory public consultations plus targeted stakeholder consultations where necessary
- Consistency between instruments = Regulatory Policy Guidelines

A shared Mission ...

- EU Level: A new Inter-Institutional Agreement for Better Lawmaking;
- Member States: national administrative capacity (impact assessments); feedback
- Stakeholders: Active Involvement/Feedback

Further information



The screenshot shows the 'Smart Regulation' page on the European Commission website. The page is titled 'Smart Regulation' and features a navigation menu on the left with items like 'Roadmaps', 'Impact Assessment', 'Evaluation', 'Reducing Administrative Burdens', 'Simplification', and 'Key documents'. The main content area is divided into sections: 'Smart Regulation' (introduction), 'Preparation' (roadmaps, impact assessments, SME needs, public consultations), 'Execution' (legislation in force, screening and evaluation, red tape, monitoring), 'A shared mission' (transposing and enforcing EU law), and 'In the rest of the world' (international regulatory principles). There are also 'Popular links' and 'External Links' sections. On the right side, there are social media sharing options, a search bar, 'Stay connected' links (Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Blog), 'Latest documents' (Annual report 2012, Consultation of SMEs), and a 'Help us improve' section with a feedback form.

Smart Regulation: <http://ec.europa.eu/smart-regulation/>