

**Question for written answer E-002204/2024**

**to the Commission**

Rule 144

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Subject: Introduction of a bureaucracy cost index at EU level

Germany's Bürokratiekostenindex<sup>1</sup> (administrative burden index) has proven to be a useful tool for measuring the administrative burdens of regulations and helping to reduce bureaucratic costs for businesses. Currently, the EU uses various programmes such as the regulatory fitness and performance programme and the better regulation agenda to assess regulatory processes, but no specific, transparent and centralised index exists to track the cumulative burden of EU regulations in a quantitative manner.

Given Commission President Ursula von der Leyen's intention to reduce reporting obligations for businesses by 25 %<sup>2</sup>, the following questions arise:

1. Will the Commission consider the introduction of a bureaucracy index similar to the Bürokratiekostenindex to quantitatively track the administrative burden of EU regulation? If not, what are the reasons for not pursuing such an approach?
2. Given the absence of a comprehensive tool to measure regulatory burdens, which alternative mechanisms does the Commission currently rely on to assess the cumulative impact of EU legislation on businesses and how effective have these mechanisms been?
3. How does the Commission intend to improve the transparency and assessment of regulatory costs in the future, especially regarding its goal of reducing reporting obligations for businesses?

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<sup>1</sup>

<https://www.destatis.de/DE/Themen/Staat/Buerokratiekosten/Erfuellungsaufwand/buerokratiekostenindex.html>.

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.politico.eu/article/eu-red-tape-regulation-ursula-von-der-leyen-commission/>.