European Commission

Single Market and Competitiveness Scoreboard

Notifications in the field of technical regulations (TRIS) and services (IMI)

Reporting period:
10/2024 – 09/2025

Key Messages

- Notification procedures in the Single Market Transparency Directive (SMTD) and the Services Directive have an important role of identifying and preventing possible regulatory barriers in the internal market at an early stage.
- **High level of transparency** and active involvement of all actors, including industry stakeholders, **is a key principle in the notification procedures**, which the Commission, supported by the Member States, continues to implement and further improve.
- The continuously high number of notified drafts under the **Single Market Transparency Directive** (787 during the 2025 reporting period) shows that Member States generally fulfil their notification obligations well. However, the recent 11% increase of Commission reactions to the notified drafts is a source of concern. The Member States must pay attention to ensuring that their proposed technical regulations are proportionate and avoid creating unnecessary frictions in the internal market. Furthermore, the low number of final texts accompanying notified measures, currently standing at 30% of all notified drafts, must be addressed by Member States in order to ensure maximum transparency and legal certainty.
- At the same time, the number of notifications in the framework of the **Services Directive** remains low and several Member States have not notified any requirements during the 2025 reporting period.
- The Commission is working on several actions to use the full potential of the notification mechanisms of the two Directives, in line with the Single Market Strategy.

Technical barriers and the Single Market – why do they matter?

Technical regulations enacted by individual Member States may result in barriers to the free movement of goods and information society services. This prevents the goods and information society services concerned from moving freely within the Single Market.

Regulatory barriers stemming from technical regulations can thus fragment the EU Single Market.

The notification procedures established both by the Single Market Transparency Directive and by the Services Directive are pillars of the Single Market in ensuring the free movement of goods, the freedom of establishment and the freedom to provide services within the EU. They facilitate the exchange of information between Member States and the European Commission and serve as a preventive tool protecting against the creation of technical barriers to trade, to the freedom to provide services and to the freedom of establishment.

Notifications under the Single Market Transparency Directive use the Technical Regulation Information System (TRIS) and those of the Services Directive are handled by the Internal Market Information System (IMI). The two systems handle around 1000 notifications on average per year in an increasingly transparent manner, contributing to the smooth functioning of the Single Market.

The Single Market Transparency Directive (EU) 2015/1535 serves to prevent regulatory barriers arising in the Single Market for products and information society services. EU Member States and other participating countries notify their draft rules in those fields to the Commission. This triggers a 3-month standstill period during which the Commission and the other countries assess the national draft rules in light of EU rules. If they identify a potential barrier to the Single Market, they can react. Any concerns they identify can then be addressed by the notifying country.

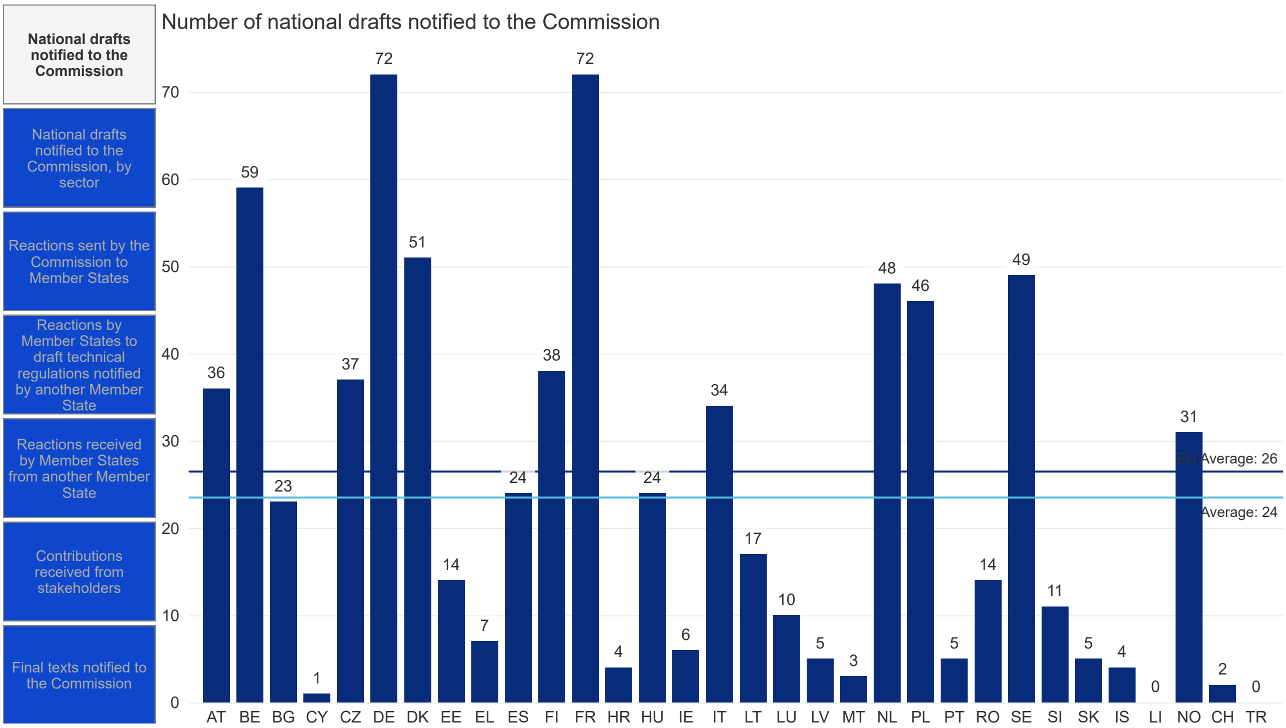
The Commission, the EU Member States and the other participating countries share information on the notification procedure under the Single Market Transparency Directive using the Technical Regulations Information System (TRIS).

1. The Single Market Transparency Directive – how does it work?

The Single Market Transparency Directive enables the Commission, EU Member States and other participating countries to react to any potential barriers to the free movement of products and the provision of information society services identified in draft national legislation notified under the Directive. Reactions can take the following forms:

- The Commission, the EU Member States and the other participating countries can issue “comments” to be taken into account by the country that has notified a draft rule or rules if the notified draft needs to be adjusted.
- The Commission and EU Member States can also send the notifying Member State a “detailed opinion” if a serious concern is identified. This extends the standstill period and opens a dialogue phase with the notifying country, so the potential barrier identified can be addressed effectively.
- If an EU proposal in the same area is in the pipeline, the Commission can take a decision requesting the Member State concerned to postpone adopting the national measure for 12 to 18 months, depending on the development of the Commission proposal.

Facts and figures



Number of national drafts notified to the Commission

The Single Market Transparency Directive has been effectively implemented over a considerable time, with 20 284 notified drafts/draft technical regulations since 1998.

In the 2025 reporting period (1 October 2024 to 30 September 2025), 787 draft technical regulations were notified to the Commission by EU Member States, EEA countries, Switzerland, Türkiye and the UK in respect of Northern Ireland. Of these, 29 notifications were withdrawn, requiring no further follow-up.

In the 2025 reporting period, 16 countries provided less than 15 notifications each, while the remaining 17 countries provided on average 41 notifications each.

Number of national drafts notified to the Commission, by sector

The sectors are organised with due account of the NACE classification of economic activities.

The sectors with most notifications in the 2025 reporting period were “Agriculture, fishing and foodstuffs”, "Construction" and "Transport" with 371 notifications out of a total of 787.

The sectors with the fewest notifications were:

- Mechanics
- Health, medical equipment
- Telecoms
- Domestic and leisure equipment
- Energy, minerals, wood

All scored less than 5% of the total number of notifications.

Nevertheless, certain sectors, such as “Health, medical equipment” and “Pharmaceutical and cosmetics” are closely interrelated and could be considered together, in which case their respective combined contribution would amount to 13% of all notifications from the reporting period.

Number of reactions sent by the Commission to Member States

In the 2025 reporting period, the Commission issued 40 detailed opinions and 59 comments. In comparison to the 2024 reporting period, the statistical data for the 2025 reporting period reveals that the Commission issued roughly 33% more detailed opinions and exactly the same number of comments in response to notifications submitted by the Member States.

Number of reactions by Member States to draft technical regulations notified by another Member State

Most EU Member States play an active role in implementing the Single Market Transparency Directive, so notifications elicit reactions from other countries. With respect to the notifications in the 2025 reporting period, 22 Member States reacted at least once to notifications from other Member States with either detailed opinions or comments.

Number of reactions received by Member States from another Member State

During the 2025 reporting period, Member States issued 70 comments and 43 detailed opinions to notifications from other Member States. The complementary impact of the Commission and the EU Member States is an asset for the functioning of the Single Market Transparency Directive. With respect to the notifications in the 2025 reporting period, 8 Member States received 5 or more reactions from other Member States.

Contributions received from stakeholders, by notifying Member State

A broad range of stakeholders took part in implementing the Single Market Transparency Directive in the 2025 reporting period, with a total of 611 contributions. A large proportion of these related to notifications from a limited number of countries. Specifically, 21 Member States received stakeholder contributions to 94 notifications in total, of which only 5 Member States received more than 5 contributions per notification on average.

By contrast, almost no stakeholder contributions were received for measures notified under the Services Directive.

Number of final texts notified to the Commission

Of all notifications sent in the 2025 reporting period, 240 included final texts of the notified technical regulations. This amounts to 30% of all notifications. However, it is possible that the legislative procedures have not been concluded for all notifications and that the final texts will be submitted at a later stage.

TRIS in a nutshell

The Technical Regulations Information System (TRIS) is a public database providing information on each notification procedure, updated daily. TRIS can be accessed free of charge. It enables anyone to submit their comments on specific notified drafts, so their voices can be heard and taken into account. Stakeholders can also subscribe to receive alerts of drafts notified in a given sector and/or by a given Member State or another participating country.

TRIS page had:

- 196 674 total page entries
- 108 125 notifications views
- 9017 active mailing list subscribers.

In the 2025 reporting period, the top 9 notifications viewed were:

Notification number	Subject of notification	Number of views
2025/44/ES	Manufacture, presentation and marketing of tobacco	5484
2025/110/FR	Products containing nicotine	5156
2025/311/ES	Labelling of consumer products	4539
2024/678/NL	Allergen labelling	3224
2024/610/AT	Tobacco products	2224
2024/601/FI	Gambling	2129
2025/86/FR	Environmental cost of textile products	1783
2024/394/HU	Prohibition of laboratory meat	1645
2024/531/ES	Protection of minors in digital environments	1597

The majority of viewed notifications came from larger Member States and concerned issues of general interest to stakeholders.

2. Notifications under the Services Directive – what are their purpose?

The purpose of notification procedures is to enhance regulatory transparency and legal certainty for service providers and to foster cooperation between the Commission and national administrations through a transparent exchange of information. The ultimate objective of notifications is to ensure efficient enforcement of the Services Directive and better compliance of new national measures with it, and to prevent the creation of unjustified barriers on the EU Single Market.

The Services Directive establishes two notification obligations relating to different new requirements that fall under its scope.

- The notification obligation under Article 15(7) relating to any new requirements listed in Article 15(2) of that Directive, affecting the freedom of establishment
- The notification obligation under Article 39(5) relating to any new or changes to existing requirements referred to in the third subparagraph of Article 16(1) and in the first sentence of Article 16(3) of that Directive, affecting the freedom to provide services

Requirements on the establishment and on the provision of services – how does the procedure work?

Member States are required to notify the above requirements in a draft or in an adopted stage using the IMI system. The Commission and the Member States may issue comments to the notifying Member State in relation to requirements notified under both Articles 15(7) and/or 39(5) of the Services Directive. These comments may include general observations or questions and requests for clarification on the notified measure’s compatibility with the Directive.

In addition, under Article 15(7) of the Services Directive, within a period of 3 months from the date of receipt of the notification, the Commission has to examine the compatibility of any new requirements with EU law and, where appropriate, adopt a decision requesting the Member State in question to refrain from adopting them or abolish them.

As indicated, following the adoption of the Single Market Strategy, the Commission is adopting several actions to improve the transparency of notifications made under the Services Directive and to strengthen the involvement of stakeholders, which is for the moment rather limited. By doing so, the Commission envisages better prevention of barriers to the free movement of services within the Single Market.

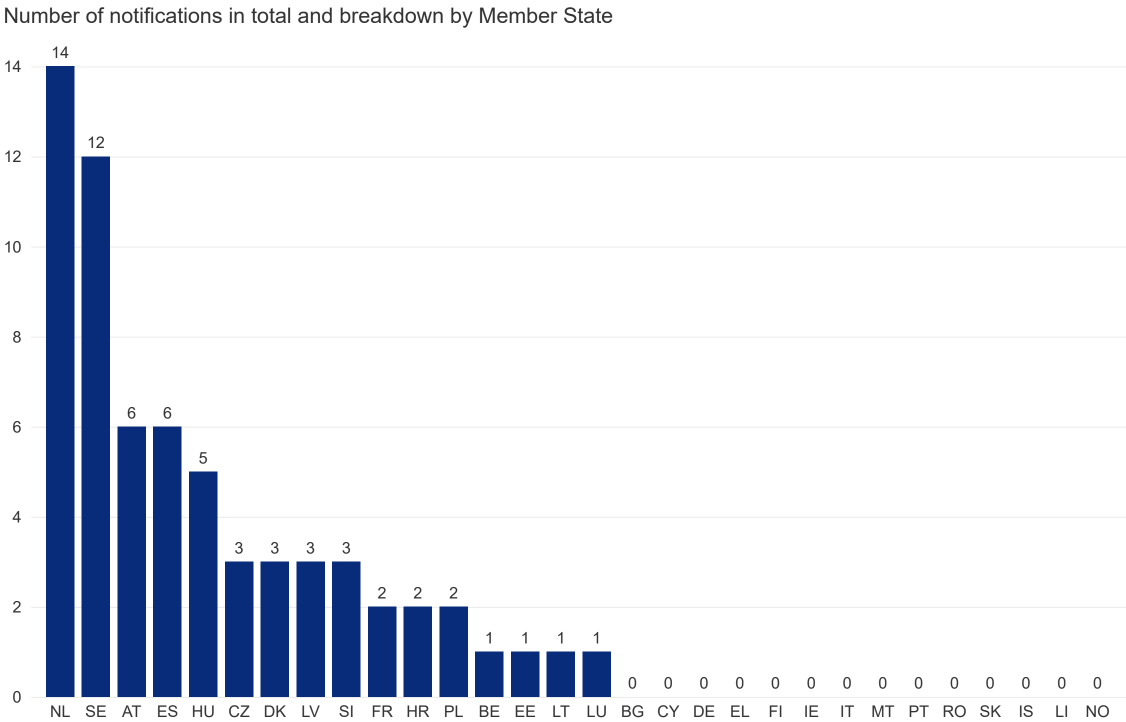
Facts and figures

Number of notifications in total and breakdown by Member State

Legal basis for notifications under the Services Directive

Sectoral breakdown of notifications received

Reactions issued to notifications received



Number of notifications in total and breakdown by Member State

- Since the IMI system’s deployment in 2008 and its extension to the Services Directive in 2014, the Commission has received and handled 1423 notifications.
- In the 2025 reporting period, Member States sent 65 notifications that required a complete assessment.
- Among all Member States, 16 Member States notified at least one requirement in the 2025 reporting period. The most active were the Netherlands, Sweden, Spain, Austria and Hungary.
- 11 Member States did not notify any requirement to the Commission.

Legal basis for notifications under the Services Directive

In the 2025 reporting period, among all notifications received, 34 were notified under Article 15(7) of the Services Directive, 6 were notified under Article 39(5), and 25 under both legal bases.

Sectoral breakdown of notifications received

The sectors with most notifications during the 2025 reporting period were "Construction", “Retail” and “Regulated Professions”.

Sectors in which fewer notifications were received were:

- IT & Telecommunication Services
- Sport & Leisure
- Transport
- Health
- Social Care Services

Reactions issued to notifications received

In relation to all notifications received in the 2025 reporting period, the Commission issued 8 comments but did not issue any decisions.

Member States did not issue comments on a text notified by another Member State.