

Industry Support to the Council's Position ahead of Trilogues for the Omnibus IV

The European Parliament Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection (IMCO) adopted, on the 27th of February, the compromise amendments on the Omnibus IV simplification package. Several industry associations are worried that the Parliament's approach might not deliver the expected simplification.

Looking ahead at the European Parliament Plenary in March and the following trilogues, the undersigned associations call for policymakers to align on a common text, based on the Council position approved in September 2025.

Industry associations join together to **express their support to the Council position**, as it **proposes a grounded, balanced and clear path to achieve digitalisation of information, setting clear boundaries** for the adoption of **common specifications**.

The Council Position Is the Better Option

Increasing digitalisation of product information to reduce paper-based requirements is key, as digitalisation will make technical documentation easier to update, access and, possibly, reduce costs for manufacturers.

We support the Council position ahead of the trilogues, but some key recommendations are still important to ensure digitalisation will be effective:

- Allow digital information to be supplied in machine-readable format.
- Make sure that digitalisation does not add costs and burdens for companies, especially SMEs.
- Digitalisation should be aimed at supporting market surveillance efforts.

On common specifications, the Council proposal to align the Omnibus IV provisions to the framework envisioned in Article 16 of the Toys Safety Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2025/2509) would strike a balance between the possible need for such specifications and the prioritisation of Harmonised Standards.

A system that limits the Commission's ability to adopt common specifications would:

- Safeguard the consensus and expertise-based standardisation and harmonisation processes.
- Limit the chances of decoupling from international standards.

- Avoid potentially creating Technical Barriers to Trade, possibly damaging the recently concluded agreements with Mercosur, India and Japan.
- Avoid the approach of "policy before physics", which, if applied, would ultimately lead to the development of technical specifications that do not reflect existing technologies. This was recently seen in the AI standards discussion where key metrics to develop the standards are still missing.