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## **MEETING DOCUMENT**

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<b>From:</b>	General Secretariat of the Council
<b>To:</b>	Working Party on Telecommunications and Information Society
<b>Subject:</b>	Questionnaire for Member States : Digital tools to meet regulatory obligations and assist reducing the administrative burdens

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Delegations will find in the annex the Questionnaire for Member States : Digital tools to meet regulatory obligations and assist reducing the administrative burdens.

## DIGITAL TOOLS TO MEET REGULATORY OBLIGATIONS AND ASSIST REDUCING THE ADMINISTRATIVE BURDENS

*Questionnaire for Member States*

**The Polish Presidency of the Council of the European Union would like to conduct a survey targeted at Member States of the EU. The initiative has been welcomed by the Commission services.**

Prioritizing efficiency and clarity in EU legislation, and facilitating compliance for businesses and Member States, are one of the top priorities of Europe for the upcoming years. All these goals were embraced in the Competitiveness Compass and the Commission published its Communication on implementation and simplification 'A simpler and faster Europe'. Digital tools can be used to support implementation of the European Union's complex regulatory ecosystem and to simplify and reduce administrative burdens (understood as time-consuming, excessive, duplicated reporting obligations).

One of the core challenges with digital tools is that they also face issues of fragmentation. They tend to address a wide array of issues in an isolated manner, being very specific to certain policies or sectors. Moreover, Member States often prioritise implementing their own digital solutions tailored to national needs, rather than developing interoperability at the EU-level that could foster consistency across the borders.

**The goal is to start discussion on a possible set of recommendations on the methodology for creating digital tools that facilitate harmonisation and coherence across the EU.** The survey focuses on the use of digital tools for better law-making and measures to facilitate compliance, data collection, data processing, reporting and interoperability at both national and European levels. **It aims at identifying and sharing good practices. Final recommendations could serve as a foundational guide, allowing future digital tools to better align with the European Union's vision for a unified digital and regulatory ecosystem.**

Next steps:

The responses to this questionnaire will be collected throughout March 2025. **The deadline to submit reply is 31 March 2025.** Then, in April, the data will be analysed, and key insights will be extracted. A summary of findings will be presented in May in the Council working parties.

Each Member State is requested to submit a single set of responses to the survey. We would like to kindly ask you to coordinate nationally to provide a single reply.

Thank you for all the contributions

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### PRELIMINARY INFORMATION:

**i. Which EU Member State do you represent?**

- Austria
- Belgium
- Bulgaria
- Croatia
- Cyprus
- Czech Republic
- Denmark
- Estonia
- Finland
- France
- Germany
- Greece
- Hungary
- Ireland
- Italy

- Latvia
- Lithuania
- Luxembourg
- Malta
- Netherlands
- Poland
- Portugal
- Romania
- Slovakia
- Slovenia
- Spain
- Sweden



**ii. What type of institution do you represent?**

- a. Central government
- b. Government agency
- c. Regulatory or supervisory body
- d. Other (please specify)

**iii. Contact details of the person completing the survey:**

- Institution:
- First name:
- Last name:
- Email:

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**1. Digital Tools for regulatory compliance and administrative burdens reduction**

**1a.** What actions have you already taken, or what actions do you plan to take to support the development of digital tools that can facilitate regulatory compliance and reduce administrative burdens, especially for the business sector?

*Examples of digital tools: automated compliance tools, workflow automation tools, cloud-based collaboration tools, AI chatbots, services providing updates on legislation amendments, reporting and monitoring tools.*

**1b.** Do you use:

- digital tools to monitor changes in the national and EU legislation – Yes / No
- digital tools to detect the scope of sectoral and/or specific regulatory obligations – Yes / No
- digital tools containing useful knowledge for the entities obligated to follow digital/cybersecurity requirements – Yes / No
- digital tools for risk assessment – Yes / No
- digital tools facilitating access to certified products and services – Yes / No
- digital tools for procurement – Yes / No
- digital tools for reporting incidents and vulnerabilities (e.g. single reporting platform) – Yes / No
- digital tools to support the transposition of directives – Yes / No
- digital tools facilitating audit (e.g., contact base for auditors, knowledge base for internal audit) – Yes / No
- digital tools for reporting obligations imposed by EU and national legislation – Yes / No

- other digital tools that facilitate compliance with EU legislation? – Yes / No

If yes, provide their description.

**1c.** Do you offer specific support programmes (eg, financial, expertise, networking) towards companies that aim to develop Regulatory Technologies (RegTech), i.e., technologies that streamline and enhance management of regulatory processes?

## 2. Digital tools for law-making process at the national level

*Examples: Semantic Analysis tools, legal text mining, big data, AI.*

**2a.** Do you use:

- digital tools supporting preparation of regulatory impact assessment – Yes / No
- digital tools in order to gather data from public consultation – Yes / No
- digital tools supporting legislation drafting – Yes / No
- digital tools to support the transposition of directives – Yes / No
- digital tools supporting comprehensive evaluation of legislation (e.g. in order to identify regulatory burdens?) – Yes / No

**2b.** If yes, provide their description.

## 3. Challenges and areas for improvement

**3a.** What are the challenges your Member State is currently facing at the national and EU levels regarding the introduction and development of digital tools for law-making process?

*Examples: lack of relevant digital competencies, resistance to change, insufficient financial resources, complex legal regulations, limited access to data, insufficient inter-agency cooperation, long-term implementation process, lack of awareness of benefits.*

**3b.** What are possible areas for improvement?

**3c.** What kind of support would you see as useful at the European level?

## 4. 'Digital by default' principle

**4a.** How do you apply 'digital by default' principle while drafting legislation?

*Examples: user centric processes ready for automation, alignment with existing horizontal digital policies (for example eID), 'once-only' principle and reuse of data, evolving ICT landscape, innovation and digital technologies, digital-ready drafting.*

**4b.** In your opinion, in order to facilitate compliance through digital tools, what other steps should be taken into consideration to make regulations and their implementation 'digital ready'? Please detail your answer with every element you deem relevant.

## 5. Digital Tools Providers

**5a.** Which of the digital tool you use are:

- Provided by private third parties?
- Public national system?
- EU platforms or EU infrastructure?

**5b.** Elaborate on your answer and provide examples.

## 6. Evaluation of Existing Tools

If you currently use digital tools, how satisfied are you with their performance? Elaborate on your answer.

## 7. Focus Areas for Developing a Digital Tool

**7a.** What should be the primary focus when developing a state-of-art digital tool?

- Sector-based customization (for specific industries)
- Law-based categorization (for specific legal acts)
- Obligation-based categorization (e.g., specific obligations such as risk assessment for GDPR or NIS2 compliance)
- Covering obligations across several legal acts (e.g. cybersecurity incident reporting)
- User role-based customization (e.g., legal teams, compliance officers, IT security teams)
- Reuse of the latest interoperable standards (e.g., European Interoperability Framework, common semantic data models)
- Workflow integration (aligning the tool with existing business processes and regulatory workflows for seamless compliance)
- Other (please specify)

**7b.** In your opinion, what are the most essential features of a model digital tool for EU legislation and its national implementation?

- Ease of use
- Availability without installation (i.e. web-based tool)
- Coordination of multiple legislative frameworks
- Regular updates on legislative changes
- Language availability
- Integration of AI-based solution
- Integration with other compliance tools
- API for integration with any other digital tools
- Other (please specify)

## 8. Training and Support Needs

What type of training or support would be beneficial for users of such digital tools? (Select all that apply)

- Online tutorials or webinars
- Comprehensive user manuals
- Helpdesk support
- Peer-to-peer support networks
- Other (please specify)

## 9. Multistakeholder Collaboration

**9a.** Please state to what extent you agree with the following statement: "Collaboration across sectors (e.g., public, private, academia) adds value to the development of such a digital tool".

- Strongly agree

- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

**9b.** Are you currently involved in any form of cross-sectoral or international collaboration? If yes, specify.

## **10. Added Value of EU-Level Solutions**

Do you believe that EU-level digital tools for adapting to changing laws and ensuring compliance would provide added value? What could be the added value? What would be the challenges? Elaborate on your answer.

## **11. Collaboration**

Would you be open to participating in a collaborative project to develop or enhance digital tools for adapting to changing laws and ensuring compliance? Elaborate on your answer.

## **12. Interoperability on the EU level**

**12a.** Has your Member State taken any steps to comply with the Interoperable Europe Act, particularly in the areas of digitalization and the development of digital tools for public administrations?

- Implementing interoperability assessments;
- Sharing interoperability solutions
- Contributing to or adopting interoperability solutions through the Interoperable Europe portal
- Engaging EU co-funded initiatives to develop and pilot cross-border interoperability (e.g. GovTech4All, EDIC, Coordination and Support Actions)
- Other (please specify)

**12b.** To what extent has your Member State adopted digital tools to enhance interoperability and facilitate regulatory compliance?

- Fully adopted
- Partially adopted
- Not adopted

**12c.** What concrete policies, projects or solutions has your Member State implemented to enhance cross-border interoperability (in line with the Interoperable Europe Act)?

**12d.** What additional digital tools or innovations would your Member State like to see developed to support the goals of the Interoperable Europe Act?

## **13. Additional Comments**

Do you have any further comments or suggestions regarding digital tools for navigating EU legislation and its national implementation?