



The European Consumers' Organisation

COMMUNIQUE DE PRESSE

PRESS RELEASE

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## **Single Market Act: A test case for the Commission to keep its promises**

With today's relaunch of the Single Market the Commission starts an ambitious project. For BEUC, the European Consumers' Organisation, the success of this initiative will depend on the Commission, European Parliament and Member States' readiness to make it work for the benefit of European consumers.

Starting today, the Commission will engage in a public debate with European citizens about the 50 priority measures it proposes. For European consumers, priority must be given to concrete measures that can add value to consumers' everyday lives.

A concrete measure that consumers are waiting for is a collective redress mechanism which gives them access to compensation when traders violate their rights or when they are victims of uncompetitive behaviour. Online users would also benefit from initiatives which enshrine consumers' digital rights and facilitate the development of new business models for legal content across Europe.

Monique Goyens, Director General of BEUC, the European Consumers' Organisation, said:

"Over the past months, much has been said about putting consumer and citizens' needs centre stage of the 'New Single Market'. BEUC and its member organisations take this pledge from president Barroso seriously. The Commission proposal contains valuable initiatives. What must follow are the implementation of measures which really benefit consumers.

"The Single Market Act is a crucial test case for the Commission to deliver tangible benefits to consumers. More than 500 million Europeans will be watching to see if the Commission makes the grade in consumer-friendly policy or if it must try harder."

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