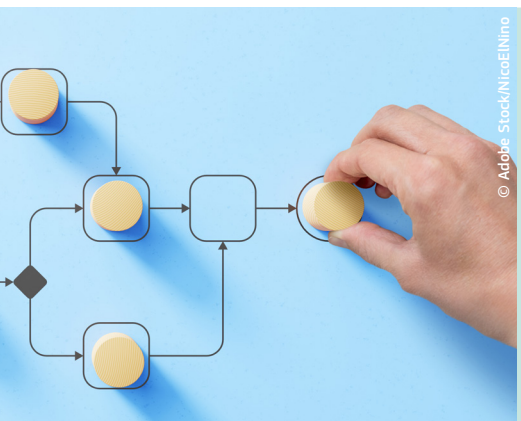


# A simpler, clearer & better enforced EU rulebook

April 2026

Making EU laws clearer, simpler, and more efficiently enforced, to better address the needs of citizens and businesses.



## 1. Simplicity by design

Key actions include

- ▶ Stronger **subsidiarity** (EU acts only when necessary) and **proportionality** (action must not exceed what is necessary to achieve the objectives).
- ▶ Prioritising **full harmonisation** on key elements of the Single Market.
- ▶ Regular **reviews** and expiry dates (**sunset clauses**) to **ensure that rules stay fit for a changing world**.



## 2. Improving our better regulation framework

Key actions include

- ▶ Impact assessments for **more initiatives**.
- ▶ **More focused** and proportionate assessments.
- ▶ Clear requirements for using **urgent procedures**.
- ▶ Better coordinated **consultations**, with optimised timelines.

### 3. Regulatory deep cleaning

#### Key actions include

- ▶ Screening **12 priority areas** to foster coherence and reduce fragmentation.
- ▶ A dedicated **Action Plan**.
- ▶ Setting up the **Simplification Platform**, to support burden reduction efforts.

### 4. Gold-plating

#### Key actions include

- ▶ Supporting Member States to avoid adding **extra national rules** (gold-plating) that harm the Single Market.
- ▶ Earlier detection and **follow-up** including through the European Semester.

### 5. Better implementation and robust enforcement

#### Key actions include

- ▶ Faster and **more automatic** enforcement actions.
- ▶ A list of **focus enforcement areas** of particular importance for the Single Market.
- ▶ Embedding '**enforcement by design**' in legislative proposals.

## Working with the European Parliament and Council

We call on Parliament and Council to apply the same principles of simplicity, proportionality and evidence, including by:

- ▶ each institution assessing the **impact of major changes** it introduces during the legislative process;
- ▶ keeping EU laws clear and simple with the '**simplicity by design**' tools.

