

Single Market Forum

2011-07-15

About the Forum

The Single Market Forum forms part of the Single Market Act and will periodically gather market participants, e.g. businesses, social partners, non-governmental organisations and those representing citizens, public authorities at various levels of government and parliaments. It will examine the state of the Single Market, the transposition and application of directives, and exchange best practice. The Forum will contribute to policy evaluation s and will play its part in monitoring the implementation of the Single Market Act and its impact at grassroots level.

Organised jointly by the <u>European Parliament</u>, the <u>Polish Government</u> (holding the Presidency of the EU Council of Ministers in the second half of 2011) and the <u>European Commission</u>, this year's Forum will be held in Krakow, Poland on 2-4 October. The European Commission will be represented by <u>Michel Barnier</u> (Commissioner for Internal Market and Services).

The conference is expected to bring together more than 1,000 citizens, businesses, consumers, representatives of the Member States (including at regional and local level), national parliaments, stakeholders, journalists and European institutions. All participants are invited to share their experiences and ideas on the functioning of the Single Market. The two-day forum in Krakow will be the first of a series of similar conferences that will take place in the coming years. It will mark the starting point of a debate among EU institutions and stakeholders on the development of the Single Market.

Preliminary programme of the Forum

SIMFO will formally open on Monday, 3rd October, with the presentation of some real-life stories from citizens and businesses. These stories, selected in the framework of the EU-wide competition "Tell us your story", aim at highlighting challenges faced by citizens and businesses in the European Union's Single Market. A series of workshops on key areas of the Single Market will follow. More information on the specific content of these workshops will be made available soon.

During the plenary session on Tuesday morning, participants will discuss the conclusions from the workshops and will agree on a "declaration" that will highlight areas for improving the functioning of the Single Market. At plenary sessions simultaneous translations in English, French, German and Polish will be provided. Workshops will be bilingual (English/Polish).



Would you like to speak up and feed the debate on the future of the Single Market? Then <u>register to the Single Market Forum</u> in **Krakow**, Poland, from **October 2-4**.

After a Europe wide debate, the Commission on 13 April 2011 has adopted the <u>Single Market Act</u> setting out a package of twelve key actions to further develop the Single Market. The aim is to boost growth and jobs in the Single Market and to enhance citizens' and businesses' confidence (<u>IP/11/469</u>).