## FISMA/14369 - Meeting with Eurocommerce

### Meeting date and place

Meeting held on 17/12/2021 09:00

#### Participating organisation(s) representative(s)

EuroCommerce Participant

#### Main issues discussed

Participants in the meeting included Eurocommerce representatives and COM officials from DG FISMA and DG JUST. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the purpose of the Rule of law stakeholder consultation and how businesses could contribute to the ongoing consultation for the 2022 Rule of law report.

DG FISMA noted that previous Eurocommerce contributions to consultations on investment protection (organised by DG FISMA) raised business concerns with a rule of law dimension. Respectively, the rule of law consultation seemed the most relevant tool to raise such issues on an ongoing basis.

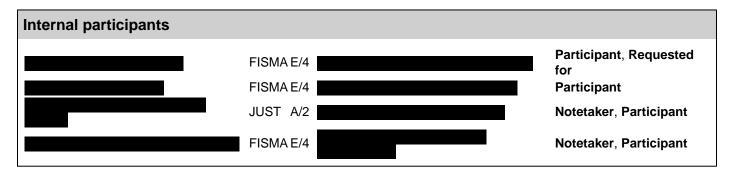
COM services also explained how other stakeholder groups had organised their contributions to the rule of law consultation. For instance, consolidated contributions covering all Member States on specific issues were particularly helpful given the country specific focus on the analysis in the rule of law report.

Eurocommerce noted the difficulties of contributing to a complex consultation questionnaire where many questions were not directly relevant to their members (e.g. media freedom). They had limited resources and could not expect from their members to engage on issues beyond their interest and direct business concerns. COM services explained that (business) stakeholders were not required to answer all questions. They could focus only on selected questions of relevance to their constituents and send a targeted contribution on those issues.

Eurocommerce thanked for the clarifications and would reflect internally if and how they could contribute to the rule of law stakeholder consultation.

#### Directorate or unit

FISMA.E.4



# Author(s) of minutes