

As the introduction to this Workshop and explanation of REFIT was given by Madam Golberg I would like to give you some examples and sense of expectations we have about REFIT in the Czech Republic.

I will be short and I will have only five remarks:

First remark

- We expect the Commission will reaffirm the REFIT program and it seems that the political guidance of the new Commission is very promising in that respect. And, we are looking forward for the new Working program.

Second remark

- Concerns the bulk of existing legislation. We would like to see not only evaluations, but more amendments and repeals of legislation which brings the burden in some areas, especially for the SMEs and/or micro enterprises, and which doesn't fit to nowadays conditions any more. We have plenty pieces of legislation imposing plenty of obligations and requirements.

Third remark

- We would like to see more quantitative measurements and outcomes in that respect.

Forth remark

- Concerns the new legislation. It is extremely important for us to be involved at an early stage when new initiatives take a form of new legislative proposals. Not only the Roadmaps and public information are important but also the drafts of Commission impact assessments at that stage. Not only the Council and the European Parliament as EU bodies are affected, it reasonable we believe also for us as individual Member States. It is not a question of subsidiarity, it is a question of proportionality and also, at the end, the involvement of Stakeholders would come into the front in this case. It is much easier to comply and to enforce when you know more about the intended impacts and when you have at least a word to the scope and cost and benefits of the new legislation.

And finally, fifth remark

- We as other countries do not want that this process undermines the protection of public interests like consumer rights or environmental protection which shall be in balance with the new Commission goals and individual concrete proposals.

Many thanks for your kind attention and I will be happy to answer your questions.

Viktor Vodicka