

Position Paper

Standardisation strategy for the Single Market

Euralarm welcomes the publication of the European Parliament Resolution on a standardisation strategy for the Single Market ([2022/2058\(INI\)](#)). This initiative is a clear sign of the Parliament's understanding of the importance of European standardisation to the functioning of the Single Market.

As we celebrate this year the 30th anniversary of the Single Market, we fully share the European Parliament's emphasis on the European Standardisation System (ESS) and share their commitment to strengthening it. We also agree that further efforts are needed to really enable the free movement of goods across Europe while increasing the competitiveness of the European industry globally.

We hope that the upcoming evaluation of Regulation (EU) No 1025/2012 will identify areas where improvements are needed and lead to the appropriate reform.

As global competition for technology-driven advantages intensifies, the need to develop globally accepted standards is more critical than ever. The ESS and the framework established by Regulation 1025/2012 should be capable of producing robust standards which are influential in the global arena while also providing for the regulatory needs of the EU. However, the Commission's emphasis on the regulatory aspects of harmonised standards (hENs) threatens to dilute their technological relevance and thus their impact on global standardisation.

Today, we think that the ESS lacks the necessary flexibility to address urgent needs in the rapidly evolving international context. Over the past 10 years, the increasing demand for standards in support of EU legislation has created bottlenecks and led to a backlog of candidate harmonised standards (hENs).

Euralarm believes that the European Commission's requests for the development of harmonised European standards (hENs) supporting EU policy objectives are disproportionate. It is these unreasonable details which have created the widely documented backlog in the preparation and revision of hENs and this is having a negative impact on both the European standards' global effectiveness and the European industry's competitiveness in the international arena.

In our highly regulated sector – fire safety and electronic security systems -, because of the disproportionate details mentioned above, we have been unable to timely revise harmonized standards. This situation – outdated European standards – is not only hindering innovation but has also a negative impact on the full achievement of the Single Market. Member States are prone to introduce national requirements on top of European standards since those no longer meet their needs. In the international arena, the erosion in the technical relevance of the European standards reduces their influence on global norms which puts the European industry in a disadvantageous situation when facing international competition.

Euralarm is committed to continue to actively contribute to the development and the promotion of European standards. Our members are closely involved in the details and, as such, the concerns expressed herein need to be acknowledged, understood and given serious consideration.

Euralarm has full confidence in the European political institutions to give due attention to our concerns in order to take the right decisions which will strengthen the Single Market, revive our economy, enhance the European competitiveness in the international arena and ensure a well-functioning European Standardisation System.

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About Euralarm

Euralarm represents the fire safety and security industry, providing leadership and expertise for industry, market, policy makers and standards bodies. Our members make society safer and secure through systems and services for fire detection and extinguishing, intrusion detection, access control, video monitoring, alarm transmission and alarm receiving centres. Founded in 1970, Euralarm represents over 5000 companies within the fire safety and security industry valued at 67 billion Euros. Euralarm members are national associations and individual companies from across Europe.

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