

# The EU Digital Single Market

F Momboisse, Ecommerce Europe – February 4, 2015





# The voice of the e-commerce industry

Representing 25.000+ companies through lobbying, advocacy, and networking



17 National associations



**Company members** 



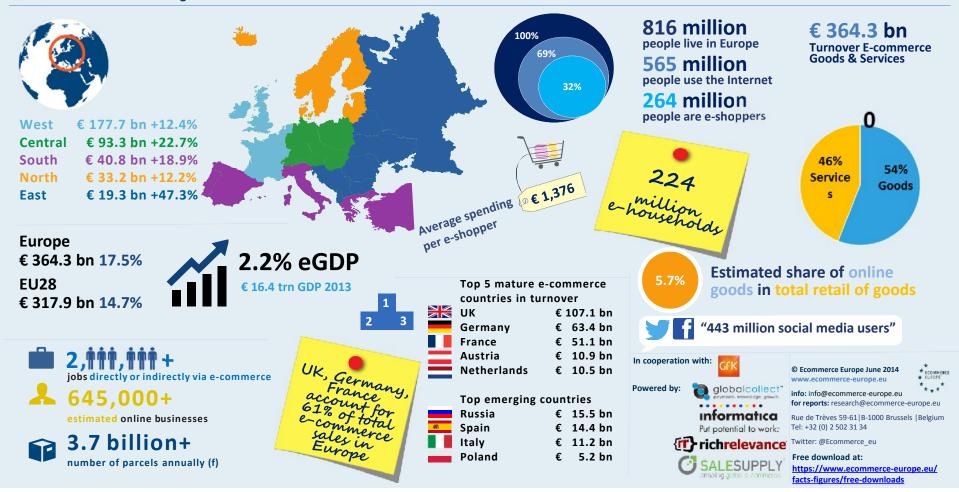
34 Business partners



**504** Registered web shops



#### **Europe** 2013 Key B2C E-commerce Data of Goods and Services at a Glance





#### The Digital Single Market Strategy

#### **Priorities of DSM:**

- 1. Breaking down national silos in telecoms regulation (copyright / data protection)
- 2. Finalizing data protection and preparing a reform of e-privacy

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- 3. Making **taxation and competition rules conducive** to a higher level of public and private investment and adapt application of competition rules to DSM
- 4. Same level of consumer rules and simplifying consumer rules for online purchases

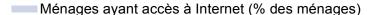
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- 5. Abolish data roaming charges
- 6. Design framework that drives creation of **innovative start-ups** and promote creative industries
- 7. Help developments as the cloud, internet of things and big data thrive the EU
- 8. Fight against cybercrime
- 9. Mobilize public and private investment for digital infrastructure
- 10. Boosting digital skills and learning

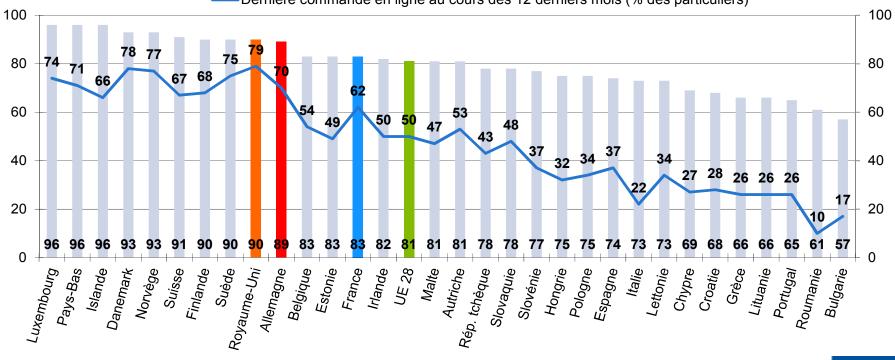




# Priority #9: digital infrastructure







Source : Fevad à partir des données Eurostat 2014





#### Ecommerce Europe's vision on DSM

#### Positive factors:

- Harmonisation of consumer law (thru Consumer Rights Directive) well underway
- Growing number of consumers buying from "foreign" stores, often via the marketplaces of "local" stores
- High growth rate of Ecommerce (Commission estimates 7x that of the rest of economy)

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# Ecommerce Europe's vision on DSM

#### Still to be solved:

- Different sets of rules for data protection, contract law, parcel delivery, tax administration, etc.
- "Opening a new country" still a complex operation for webshops
- Different consumer habits (language, payments, local competition, pricings, ..) may lead to lack of trust in cross-border ecommerce









#### Some concrete examples:

- Uncertainty on foreign privacy laws
- Different VAT rules (15% LUX 25% SWE)
- Customs bottlenecks
- Differences / extra charges on payments for consumers/online shops
- Slow, costly, unreliable parcel delivery





#### **Ecommerce Europe**

Your one stop shop for all e-commerce related matters

- Survey Barriers to Growth
- Research reports
- Webportal e-Logistics
- European Trustmark
- Ecommerce Europe Annual Conference









# Survey barriers to go cross border

#### Large / medium size companies

- Survey underway across 16 coutries
- Results due early June (presented in Barcelona)

#### Small size companies

- Survey done last december (411 shops, 3 countries F / UK / Spain)
- Small shops (< 5 employees)</li>
- 52% sell abroad
- Top 3 reasons for not going abroad / obstacles seen:
  - 37% logistics: ability to conclude contracts to deliver abroad at a good cost
  - 33% language: ability to translate the web store, to handle customer care in foreign language, ...
  - 28% payments: ability to offer the right payment techniques, suited to the countries

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# Ecommerce Europe's Priorities DSM

#### **Longer term**

- 1. Harmonization of existing legal frameworks.
- 2. A European **one-stop-shop** on rules for: VAT and Taxation, data protection and privacy, parcel delivery, consumer rights and dispute resolution and online payments.



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# Ecommerce Europe's Priorities DSM

#### **Short / medium term**

- Harmonization of legislation for privacy and security top priority (data protection / e-Privacy).
- 2. Simplification of consumer rules for online purchases and a basis to solve disputes in a simple, fast and low cost way.
- 3. Clarify European VAT registration through an **extended Mini One Stop Shop** and **a common European threshold**.
- Strengthen pan-European action for fair competition.
- Conclude the creation of a pan-European framework for online payments.
- 6. Stimulate the parcel delivery market to innovate, by harmonizing customs regimes and making their timing more predictable.



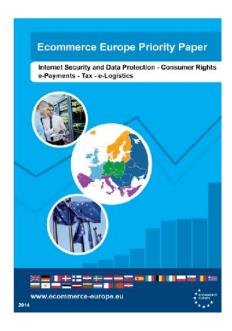
### Completing the Digital Single Market

An integrated perspective on five key policy areas

- Internet Security & Data Protection

  Harmonization with room for innovation
- Consumer Rights
  Simplification, self-regulation, and competition
- e-Payments
   Focus on mobile and stimulate innovation
- Taxation
   Harmonize VAT and expand Mini-One-Stop-Shop
- e-Logistics

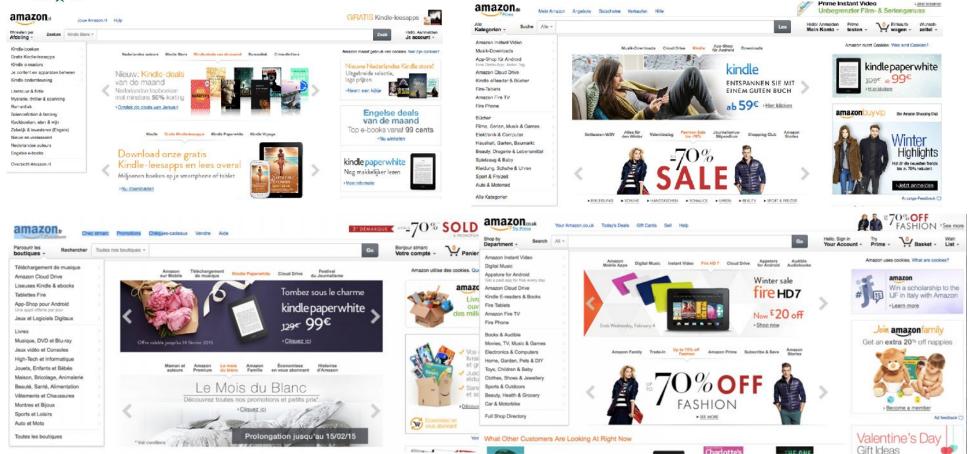
  More efficient cross-border parcel delivery





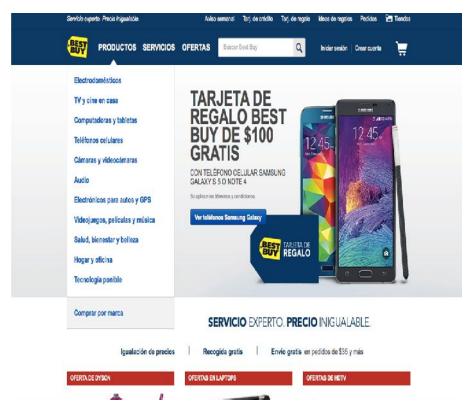
# Amazon in Europe: 6 different stores

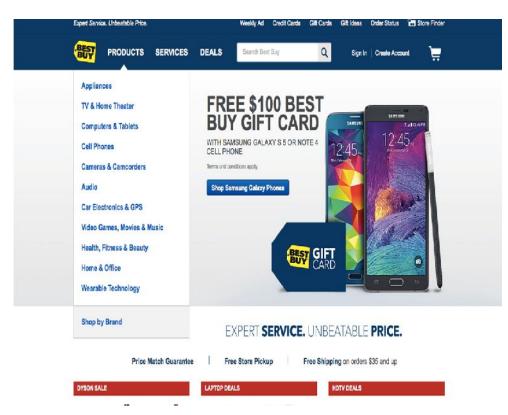
Homepage Amazon NL Fr De UK Feb 2, 2015, 3pm





# Bestbuy in the USA: 2 different stores







# Thank you!

Questions? <a href="mailto:info@ecommerce-europe.eu">info@ecommerce-europe.eu</a> or Twitter: @Ecommerce\_EU

