



Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection
The Chairman
IMCO-09-0315

To the Chair of the committee concerned

Dear Colleague, *Dear Colleague*

Under the current Parliamentary mandate, the proposal for a Directive on Consumer Rights (COM (2008) 614 final) clearly remains of central importance to the work of the Internal Market and Consumer Protection Committee of the European Parliament. In replacing four existing horizontal directives and fully harmonising key aspects of consumer contract law, this directive constitutes a landmark in the area of EU Consumer Law.

The first exchange of views between the European Parliament and National Parliaments on this proposal, which was held on 2 April 2009, has shown the considerable interest in this topic. By applying the principle of targeted full harmonisation this legislation constitutes a profound reform seeking to enhance consumer confidence and stimulate cross-border trade in the EU.

Due to the importance of this legislation and its impact on the national legislation, my Committee proposes to organise a Hearing with National Parliaments. The event would be held on **Tuesday 23 February 2010** at the European Parliament in Brussels.

I would like to invite a maximum of two representatives from every National Parliament to participate at the event and to make a short presentation of your Committee's views on the proposal. Should you be unable to attend, we would welcome any written contribution which could be distributed to our respective Members and other participants.

Please find attached the draft programme for the Hearing. The practical details regarding the meeting will be forwarded to your Parliament's Representatives/Services responsible for relations with the European Parliament directly.

I am looking forward to your participation in our debates.

~~Yours faithfully~~

Malcolm HARBOUR

*Yours sincerely
Malcolm Harbour*