



# EX-POST EVALUATION

## DENMARK

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Simplification projects in ministries



Danish Business EU- and regulatory forum



Burden Hunting

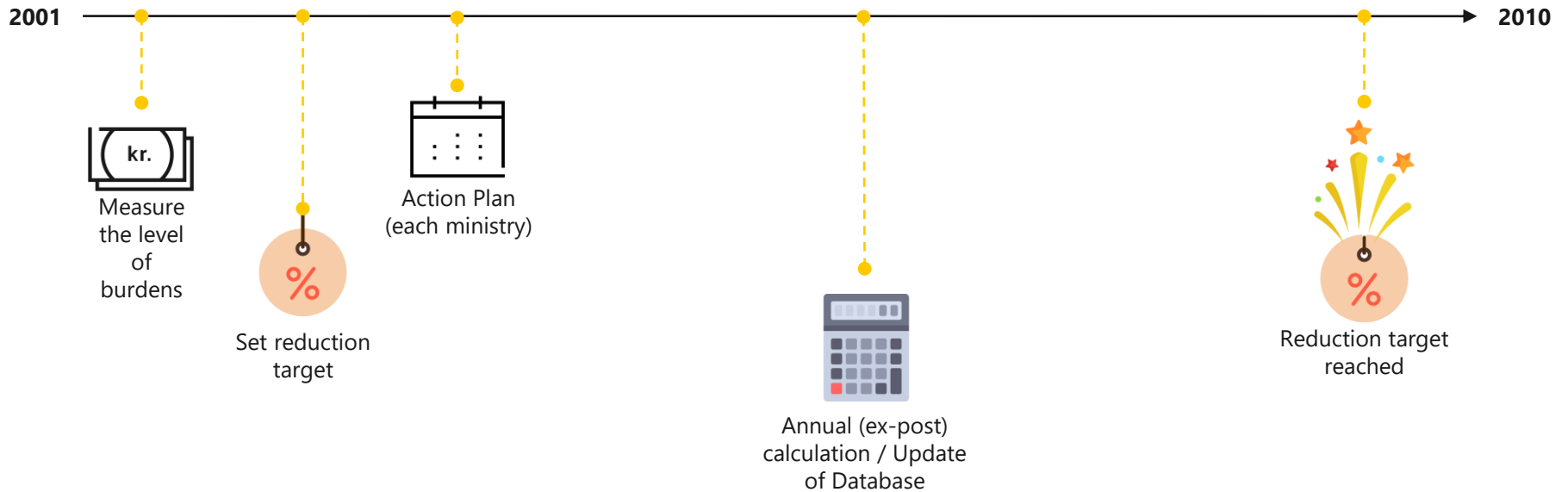
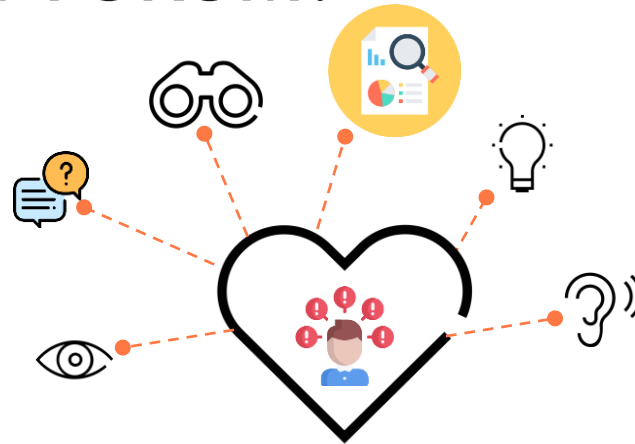




# DANISH BUSINESS EU- AND REGULATORY FORUM

## Systematic Ex-post Evaluation

# WHY A BUSINESS EU- AND REGULATORY FORUM?



# WHY A BUSINESS EU- AND REGULATORY FORUM?

- From **2012** to **today**: Bottom-up approach

Bring the voice of stakeholders with everyday practical experiences to the political agenda.

## **Government perspective**

Input from "real life" to better regulation

Legitimacy to new initiatives when supported from main stakeholders

Pressure on ministries to deliver on better regulation

## **Stakeholder perspective**

Direct channel of influence

Public display of results

"Minor" problems on the political agenda

Keep the government accountable

# EXAMPLE #1

## Smarter regulation on fire safety

- **Problem:** Fire regulation for warehouses too strict compared to neighbor countries
- **Solution:** Regulation done “smarter” with inspiration from i.e. Sweden – without compromising safety



*“The changed rules mean significant savings for us – while we are keeping the same level of safety. We can save around 10 pct. on new buildings and save operational costs, because we can use the space more efficiently. This means we can stay competitive and keep jobs in Denmark”*

Brian Winther Almind, Director - Group Property, DSV A/S



## EXAMPLE #2

### Auto mechanics save time and money when ordering new license plates

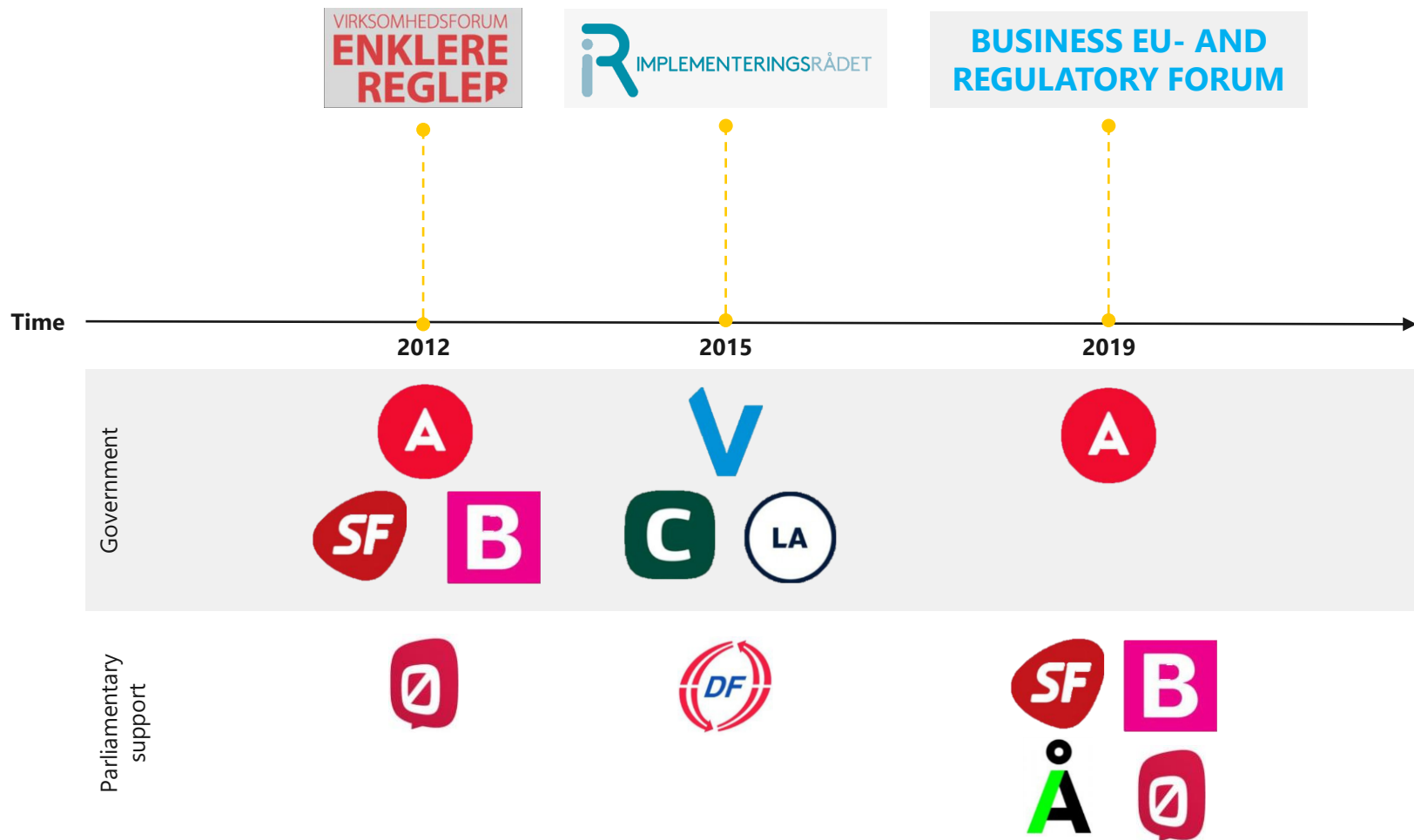
- **Problem:** Auto mechanics had to drive for hours to pick up license plates
- **Solution:** License plates sent directly to garage



*"I am really pleased to have had the possibility to create awareness of this problem. It will save time and troubles for both us and our costumers if we can have the license plates sent directly to the garage instead"*

Erik Gransgaard, owner of the garage Vestjysk Auto

# THE BIRTH OF THE NEW FORUM





# THE FORUM'S MANDATE (1 of 4)

- **Purpose (Overall)**

Until the end of 2023, the EU's Business and Regulatory Forum will act as an ***independent advisory*** body for the government's work to make it easier to do business in Denmark.

The forum shall make concrete proposals for improvements in Danish and European regulation, i.e. proposals that

1. reduce the administrative burden on national and European business regulation;
2. reduce the cost of complying with regulation; and
3. reduce the cost of restructuring and adjusting business in the context of rule changes.

# THE FORUM'S MANDATE (2 of 4)

## Digitalization and Regulatory barriers for emerging technologies

- **Digitalization**

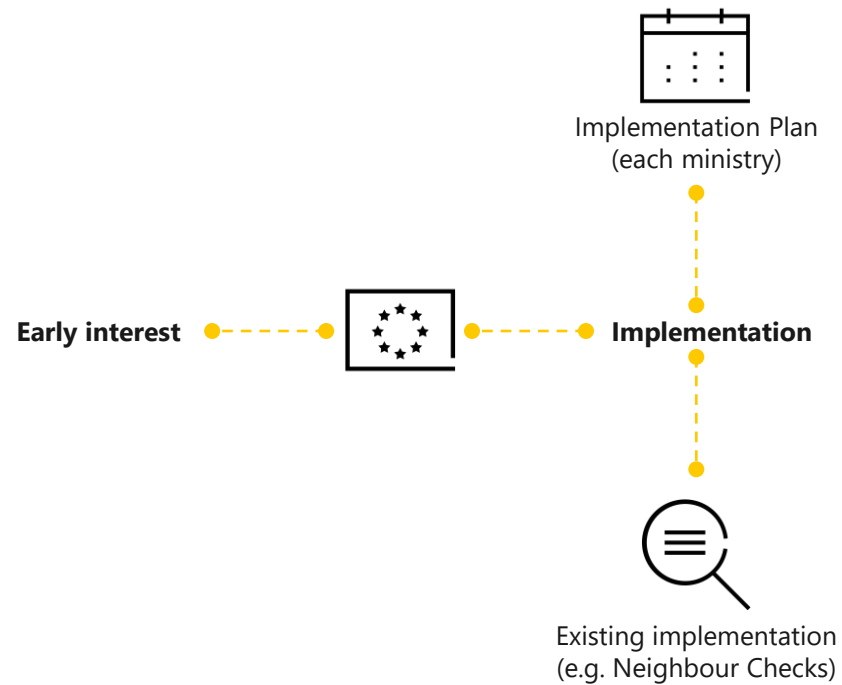
Focus on business-oriented digital solutions and where these can be optimized or linked across authorities.

- **Regulatory barriers for emerging technologies**

A particular focus on identifying areas where digitalization and new technological trends will challenge regulation and make concrete proposals on how regulation and related business-oriented digital solutions are best designed.

# THE FORUM'S MANDATE (3 of 4)

## EU-Regulation



# THE FORUM'S MANDATE (4 of 4)

## Regulatory Impact Assessments

- Advising the government on the development and application of the methodology for **business impact assessments** and the **principles of agile business regulation**

### **Business impact assessments**

Sub-Part of the general regulatory impact assessments (RIA)

New area allowing the Forum to propose systematic improvement of the regulatory policy (scrutiny of the system)

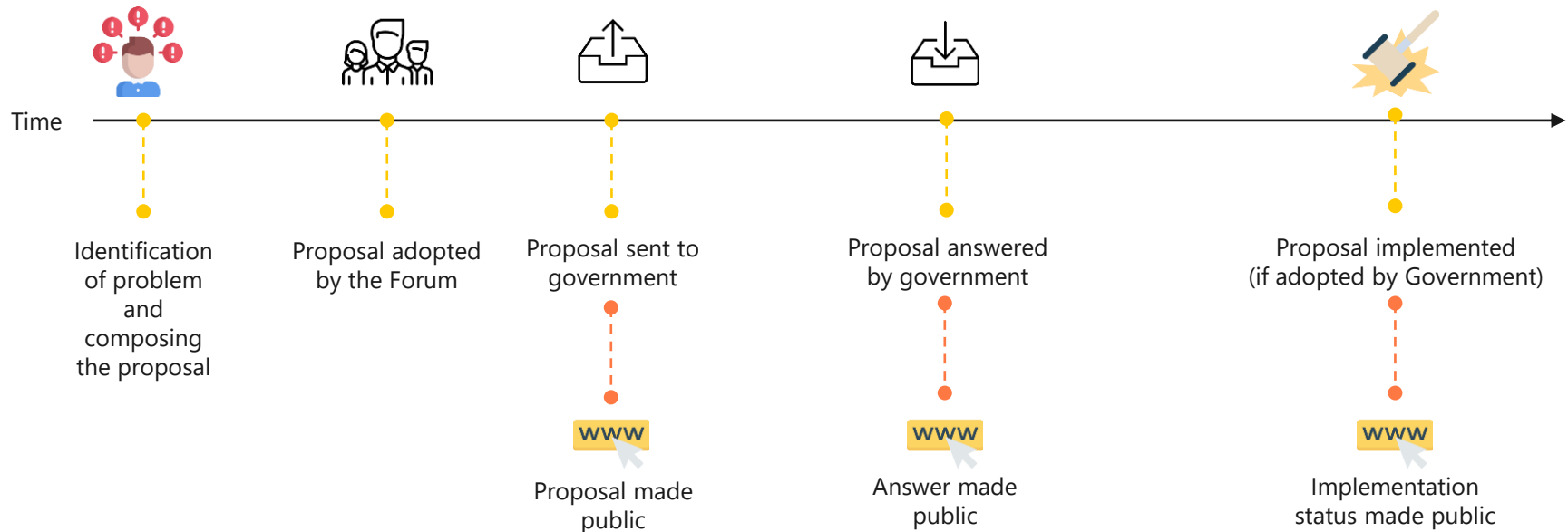
### **Principles of agile business regulation**

1. Enable application of new business models
2. More simple and purposeful
3. Technology neutral
4. Holistic
5. Ensure user-friendly digitation

# CORE PRINCIPLES

- The principle of “**Comply-or-explain**”
- **Transparency** – proposals to the government, answers from the government and status of implementation - all published on web-site
- **Dialogue** – proposals often developed in dialogue with the authorities in order to find the best solutions + good dialogue between the members
- **Limited mandate of the forum** – only proposals within better regulation, i.e. policy proposals in general and proposals on taxes are excluded)
- Proposals are **loyal to the purpose of the legislation** – better regulation that can remove *unnecessary* burdens

# THE PROCESS OF A PROPOSAL



# THEMES / SECTORS IN FOCUS

2012-2019

## Examples of cross-cutting themes

- Reuse of data
- Employment of foreign workers
- Digitalization
- National regulation implemented locally by the municipalities and regional authorities
- Working environment
- Private companies reporting to national statistics
- Making the business conditions better for Denmark as an industrial economy
- Administrative burdens with reporting to the authorities on accounting and taxes
- Regulative barriers for growth
- Control and inspection
- Circular economy
- Largest barriers in the EU internal market for SMV's
- Micro-business 1

## Sectors

- The building sector
- The tourism sector
- The retail sector
- The transport sector
- The food sector
- The healthcare sector
- The welfare sector



# TRANSPARENCY IN PRACTICE

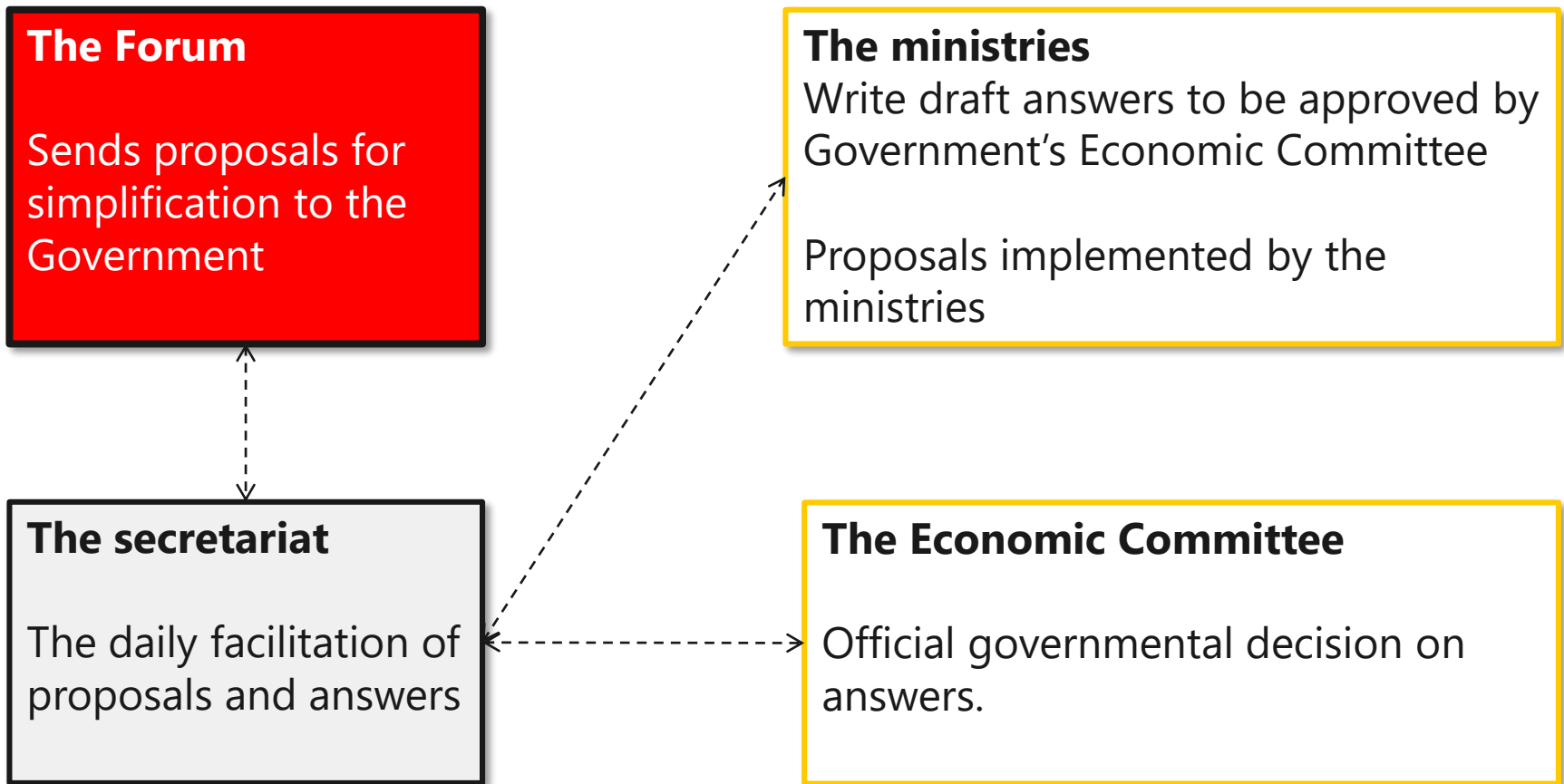
## THE OLD FORUM'S HOMEPAGE

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Danish Business Authority's forum. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links: FORSIDE, FIND FORSLAG, SEND FORSLAG, TEMAER, and OM VIRKSOMHEDSFORUM. Below this, the breadcrumb "Forside / Find forslag" is visible. The main heading is "Arbejdstilsynets begrundelser i afgørelser" in red. The page displays details for a proposal: "Sendt til Beskæftigelsesministeriet" (Number 322), "Dato 25.02.2014" (Tema "Arbejds miljø"). It indicates the proposal is "Gennemføres" (Implemented) and provides an email address (redacted) and a "Tilmeld" button. A "Læs mere om status" link is also present. Below the details are three tabs: "FORSLAG", "SVAR", and "STATUS". The "FORSLAG" tab is active, showing a "Nuværende problem" section. A yellow circle highlights the "FORSLAG" tab with the annotation "Proposal from the Forum". Another yellow circle highlights the "SVAR" tab with the annotation "Answer from the government". A third yellow circle highlights the "STATUS" tab with the annotation "Status of implementation". The "Nuværende problem" text states: "Af forvaltningslovens § 22 fremgår, at en afgørelse, der går en part imod, skal være ledsaget af en begrundelse. Af forvaltningslovens § 24, fremgår, at begrundelsen skal fremtræde som en forklaring på, hvorfor afgørelsen har følgende indhold." Below this, it says "skal indeholde:" followed by a list: "• en sagsfremstilling", "• en redegørelse for hovedhensynene i skønmæssige afgørelser", and "• en stillingtagen til partsanbringender". The final sentence reads: "Formålet hermed er at sikre at den borger/virksomhed".

# THE INSTITUTIONAL SET-UP

- **Independent** advisory board to the government
- **Members:**
  - **Chairman:** Poul Mollerup – CEO of The Association of Danish Law Firms, former chairman of the Implementation Council
  - **9** business organizations
  - **3** labor organizations
  - **1** consumer organization
  - **3** business representatives from private companies (appointed by the Minister of Business)
  - **3** experts with special competences in EU / national regulation, digital solutions and new business models or data structures / API solutions (appointed by the Minister of Business)
- Assisted by a permanent **secretariat** situated in the Danish Business Authority (Ministry of Industry, Business and Financial Affairs)

# THE ROLE OF ACTORS INVOLVED





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