

# Video Transcript Lesson 1-1 Introduction

In 2014 the EU introduced new legislation around public procurement aimed at harmonizing procurement processes across the EU. This applied to all public bodies wishing to procure goods and services. The aim was to encourage economic activity such as cross-border movement of goods and the participation of small and medium enterprises.

Further reasons were to promote equal rights, encourage flexibility and provide an appeals process for suppliers who thought they had been unfairly rejected. Perhaps the most important reason was to introduce e-procurement to improve transparency and facilitate data collection on public procurement. Other aims were to speed up the procurement process by reducing the admin overload, especially for small businesses and facilitating contract award decision making.

E-procurement involved a new self-declaration of eligibility from prospective suppliers. Finally, it also enabled public procurement to be used as a policy strategy instrument.