



Our red tape

John Morgan (Letters, 4 February) asks why Brussels is harming Britain's competitiveness, but not Germany's. It is because the red tape is of our own making. In the quest for "better regulation", we transpose EU Directives into national law by "copying through" the clauses of their Articles. Any attempt at strategic integration is myopically regarded as "gold plating" and killed off. The result is disconnected bureaucratic fragments. It is time for some imagination in Whitehall.

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