

Public consultation on the European citizens' initiative

http://ec.europa.eu/info/content/public-consultation-european-citizens-initiative_it

About this consultation

24 Maggio 2017 - 16 Agosto 2017

Settori Institutional affairs

Departments [Secretariat-General](#)

Target group

Citizens and stakeholders, in particular:

- organisations such as civil society organisations promoting participatory democracy instruments
- public authorities working around the European citizens' initiative and/or having similar participatory democracy instruments in place.

Objective of the consultation

The [European citizens' initiative](#), foreseen in the Treaty on European Union, allows EU citizens to participate directly in the development of EU policies by calling on the European Commission to make a legislative proposal. To be considered by the Commission, an initiative must gather the support of at least one million EU citizens from at least seven member states. The Commission must decide whether or not to make a legislative proposal, and explain the reasons for that choice.

The rules and procedures of the European citizens' initiative are set out in an [EU Regulation](#) adopted by the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union in February 2011 (for more information see the [website of the European citizens' initiative](#)). It is possible to organise such initiatives since April 2012.

In March 2015, the Commission identified a number of challenges with the current rules and procedures in a [report](#) on the application of the Regulation. Since then, stakeholders and institutions have assessed and evaluated the instrument, identifying a number of shortcomings in the way the instrument operates (for more information, see the [website of the European citizens' initiative](#)).

The Commission has decided to look into those concerns and announced earlier this year that it would propose a revision of the Regulation. This revision aims at:

- making the European citizens' initiative more accessible and easier to use for organisers and signatories;
- achieving the full potential of the European citizens' initiative as a tool to foster debate and citizen participation at EU level and contribute to bringing the EU closer to its citizens.

This consultation intends to gather the views of citizens and stakeholders on the current Regulation. It focusses on the shortcomings that have been identified and on options for improving this Regulation.

How to submit your response

We recommend that you submit your contribution by replying to the [online questionnaire](#). At the end of the questionnaire, you will have the possibility to upload a document, such as a position paper, should you so wish. This document will be considered as part of your response to the consultation.

Should you wish to submit your contribution in another way, please contact sg-eci-consultation@ec.europa.eu.

All replies to the consultation will be made public. You can choose to have your contribution published anonymously.

In the interest of transparency, organisations are invited to provide the public with relevant information about themselves by registering in the [Transparency Register](#) and subscribing to its Code of Conduct. If an organisation is not registered, its submission is published separately from the registered organisations.

View the questionnaire

The [questionnaire](#) will be available in all the EU official languages within two weeks from the start date. Replies can be provided in any official EU languages.

Additional information

Reference documents and related links:

- [Regulation \(EU\) No 211/2011 on the citizens' initiative](#)
- [Commission Report on the application of the Regulation on the citizens' initiative](#) (March 2015)
- [Roadmap](#)
- [Website of the European citizens' initiative](#)

Contact

If you have any questions regarding this public consultation, please contact: sg-eci-consultation@ec.europa.eu

View the contributions

The Commission will publish the replies shortly after the end of the consultation period, on the [website of the European citizens' initiative](#).

Consultation outcome

The Commission will summarise the replies after the end of the consultation period. The results will be taken into account when preparing the legislative proposal.