



The European Citizens' Initiative

#EUTakeTheInitiative
europa.eu/citizens-initiative



The European Citizens' Initiative

Article 11(4) TEU

Not less than one million citizens who are nationals of a significant number of Member States may take the initiative of inviting the European Commission, within the framework of its powers, to submit any appropriate proposal on matters where citizens consider that a legal act of the Union is required for the purpose of implementing the Treaties.

Article 24 TFEU

Regulation (EU) 788/2019



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Step 1: Getting started



- **Group of organisers: 7 EU citizens** old enough to vote in EP elections living in at least **7 different EU Member States**
- A **legal entity** to manage the initiative can be set up (option)
- **ECI Forum** assistance

2



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Step 2: Registering an initiative

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- Organisers create a dedicated account on our website, encode the details of their initiative and **ask the Commission to register it**
- The Commission checks **the legal basis of the request** and decides whether to register or not (usually takes 2 months)
- Organisers may revise their proposal (+ 2 months)
- Information published on the ECI site and translated in all EU languages



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+ **And many others...**

WHERE CAN I MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

WITH THE EUROPEAN CITIZENS' INITIATIVE

Check out these 10 areas where
you can shape the EU agenda.



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Step 3: Collecting statements of support



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- Organisers have **12 months** to collect **1 million** statements of support
- **Minimum number** in at least **seven Member States**
- Collection possible **on paper and online**;
Online 2 options:
 - central online collection system
 - individual online collection systems
- Flexible **start date within 6 months** of registration
- **All EU citizens old enough to vote in EP elections** can take part + possibility to lower the age to 16



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Step 5: Submitting the initiative

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- Online via the dedicated organiser account
- Deadline of **3 months** after the end of the verification stage to **submit a valid initiative**



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Step 6: Replying to an initiative

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- Organisers present their initiative:
 - meeting at the Commission
 - hearing in the Parliament
- EP – debate in plenary and possible resolution
- Commission - official response in form of **Communication on actions to take**, if any (6 months)
- If a law is proposed – EU law-making procedures apply (consultations, impact assessment, interinstitutional negotiations etc.)



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Find out more

- ECI guide
- ECI website

europa.eu/citizens-initiative

- ECI Forum

europa.eu/citizens-initiative-forum

- Subscribe to [newsletter](#)



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Thank you

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