



The European Citizens' Initiative

First report on the application of Regulation (EU)
No 211/2011 on the citizens' initiative

- Findings of the report
- Challenges identified



Findings of the report (1)

- 51 requests for registration:

Registered						Not registered
Collection ongoing	Withdrawn by its organisers	Collection closed ⁹	Closed initiatives without the required support ¹⁰	Submitted to the Commission – Commission's answer pending	Answered by the Commission	Registration refused
3	10	3	12	1	2	20
31						



Findings of the report (2)

Registration

- 31 registered initiatives
- Wide range of topics: e.g. environment, mobility, education, development cooperation, social issues
- 20 requests refused: manifestly outside the framework of Commission's powers



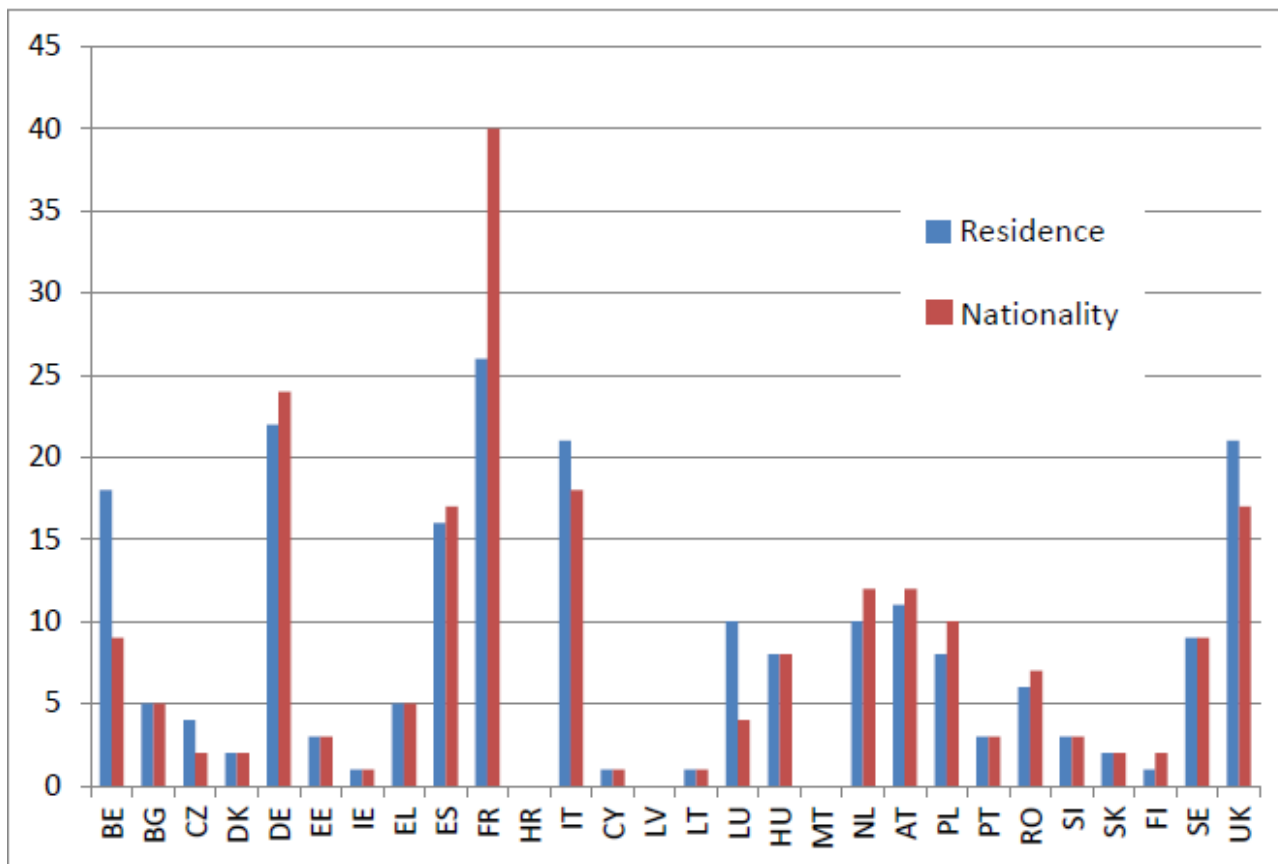
Findings of the report (3)

Title	Languages available	Registration date ^ Registration number	Deadline for collection (24:00 CET)
« On The Wire »	FR* DE EN ES IT	09/02/2015 ECI(2015)000001	09/02/2016
For a socially fair Europe! Encouraging a stronger cooperation between EU Member States to fight poverty in Europe	FR* DE EN IT	19/12/2014 ECI(2014)000005	19/12/2015
An end to front companies in order to secure a fairer Europe	FR* DE EN ES IT RO	01/10/2014 ECI(2014)000004	01/10/2015



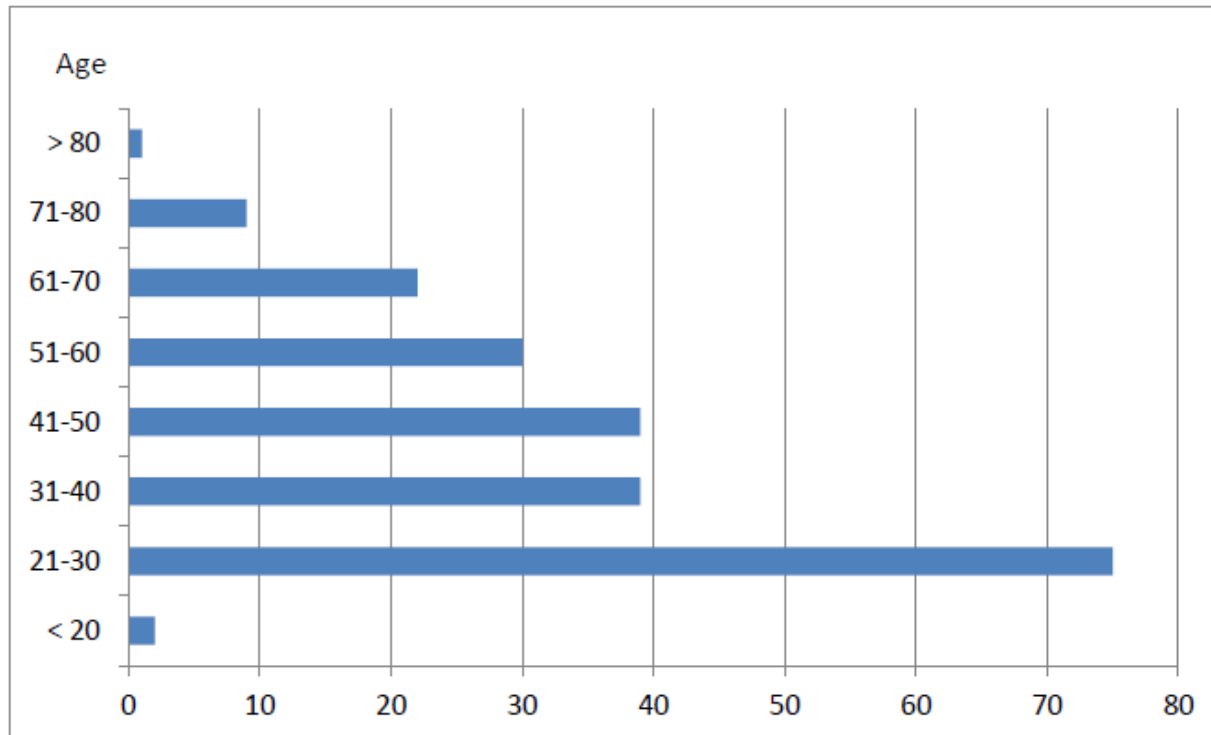
Findings of the report (4)

Citizens' committees





Findings of the report (5)





Findings of the report (6)

Collection

- Data based on the three successful initiatives
- Overall 55% collected online:

Initiative	Statements of support collected on paper	Statements of support collected online
<i>Right2Water</i>	Around 20%	Around 80%
<i>One of us</i>	Around 70%	Around 30%
<i>Stop vivisection</i>	Around 40%	Around 60%



Findings of the report (7)

- Online collection:
 - 21 collected online
 - All used the software provided by the Commission
 - Server issues: all but 2 initiatives used the Commission's exceptional hosting offer



Findings of the report (8)

Verification of statements of support

- Overall almost 90% of the collected statements were found valid.
- Similar results for paper-based and online statements
- Random sampling used by 17 Member States



Findings of the report (9)

Submission and examination by Commission

• **Right2water:**

- >1.65 M (thresholds reached in 13 countries)
- 17 February 2014: Meeting with COM and Public Hearing in EP
- 19 March 2014: Communication from the Commission

-> **positive answer: COM proposed a series of follow-up actions**

http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/secretariat_general/followup_actions/citizens_initiative_en.htm



Findings of the report (10)

- **One of us:**

- >1,72 M (thresholds reached in 18 countries)
- 9-10 April 2014: Meeting with COM and Public Hearing in EP
- 28 May 2014: Communication from the Commission

-> COM decided not to take action, considering that the existing legislative framework was the appropriate one.



Findings of the report (11)

- **Stop vivisection:**

- >1,17 M (thresholds reached in 9 countries)
Submitted to the Commission on 3 March 2015

[After the adoption of the report:

- *11 May: Meeting with COM and Public Hearing in EP*
- *3 June: Communication from the Commission*

-> COM proposed a series of follow-up actions]



Challenges identified (1)

- Lack of legal personality for citizens' committees
- Registration: almost 40% of initiatives could not be registered
- Requirements for signatories: varying from MS to MS -> some citizens excluded



Challenges identified (2)

- Timeline:
 - Collection period (often less than 12 months due to the setting-up of the online collection system)
 - No time limit for the submission
- Translations
- Online collection: hosting issue, complex certification procedure, dissatisfaction with the Commission software, Member States uncomfortable with the possibility to certify systems before the initiative registration
 - > study



Challenges identified (3)

- Public hearings in the European Parliament: need to ensure that different views and perspectives are heard.
- Need for more interaction between organisers and the Commission