



Implementation of Regulation (EU) 2019/788 on the European citizens'

Update on IT developments

16/11/2021 – v3

Jérôme Stefanini (DIGIT B2)

Agenda

1. Central Collection System State of play
2. eID State of Play
3. Use of File exchange service

Central Collection System

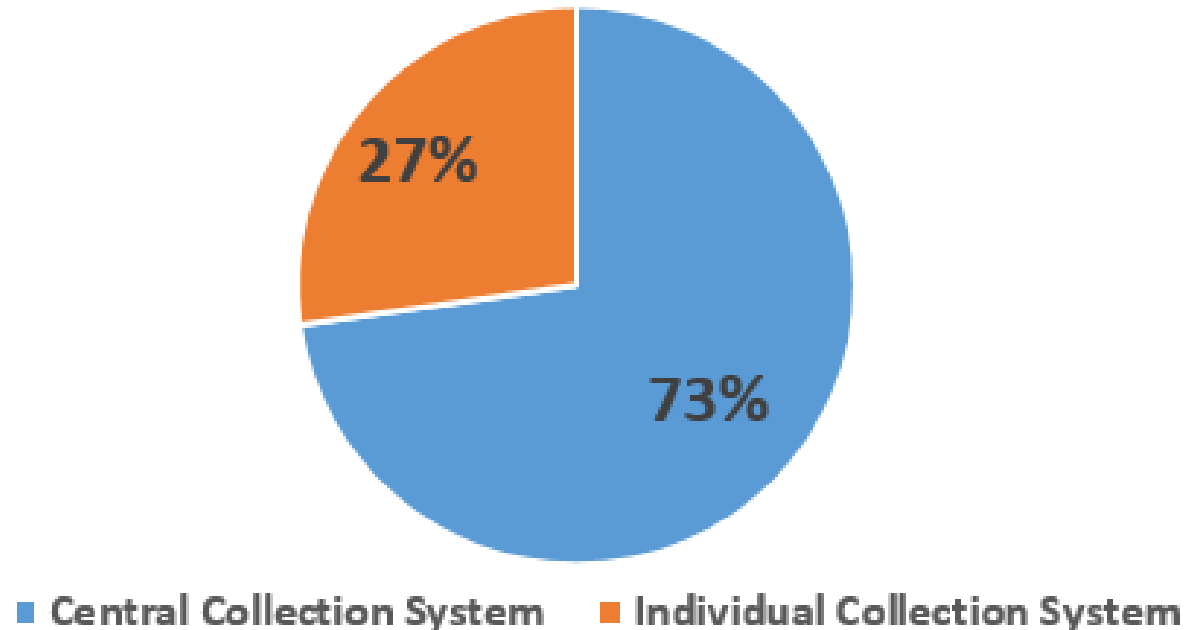
- Six new initiatives started using the E.C. Central Collection System since last expert group meeting.
 - Right to Cure: <https://eci.ec.europa.eu/015/public>
 - Civil Servant Exchange Program (CSEP): <https://eci.ec.europa.eu/016/public>
 - Green Garden Roof Tops: <https://eci.ec.europa.eu/017/public>
 - European EcoScore: <https://eci.ec.europa.eu/018/public>
 - SAVE CRUELTY FREE COSMETICS - COMMIT TO A EUROPE WITHOUT ANIMAL TESTING: <https://eci.ec.europa.eu/019/public>
- Two initiatives started using their own OCS since last expert group meeting
 - Ban Fossil Fuel Advertising and Sponsorships : <https://banfossilfuelads.org>
 - Civil society initiative for a ban on biometric mass surveillance practices <https://reclaimyourface.eu/>

% of initiatives using COCS vs IOCS

Since the start of new ECI regulation

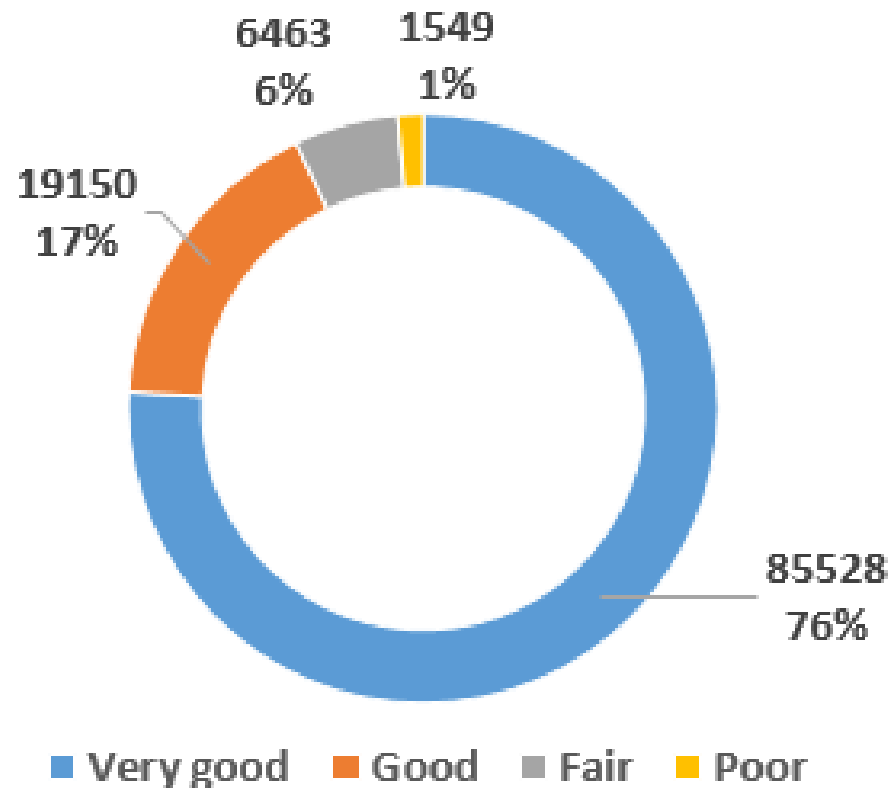
8 initiatives out of 11 that started used the Central Collection System

3 initiatives out of 11 that started used the Individual Collection System



Citizens' satisfaction rate about COCS

Out of more than 110.000 feedbacks collected from citizens having supported initiatives using the Central Collection System.

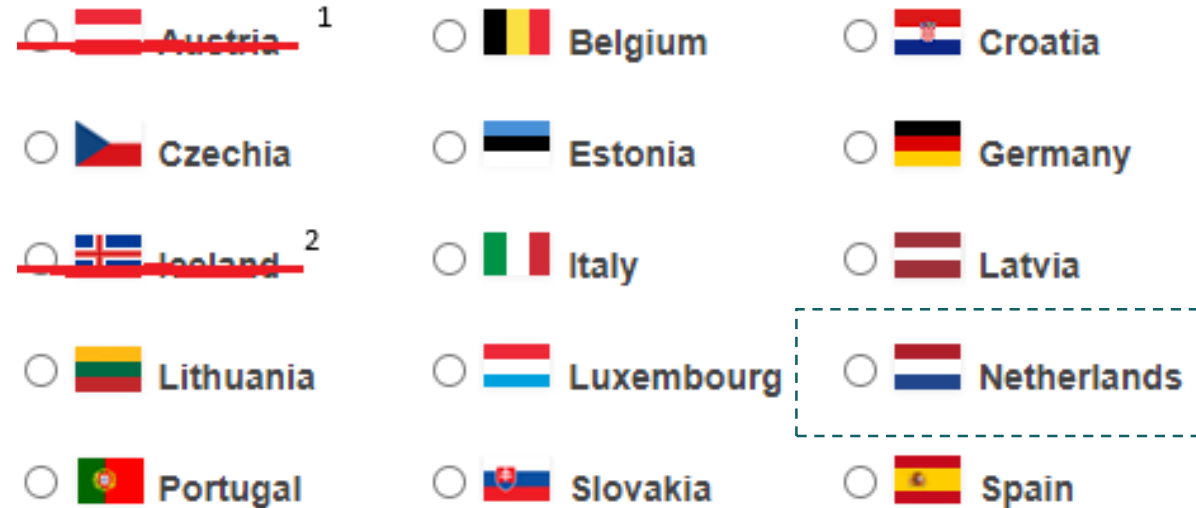


Agenda

1. Central Collection System State of play
2. eID State of Play
3. Use of File exchange service

ECI support via eIDs

eID offered to 12 nationalities to support ECIs



¹ Austria has not notified their eID yet

² Iceland not a Member State

Changes since last Expert group meeting:

1. LT eID added.
2. Netherlands eID has been integrated in E.C. eIDAS connector and should be offered soon to ECI users.

eID statistics – Status on October 2020

Support via eID available in 11 Member States ^{*}, ^{**}

Country Code	Support via e-Id	Support via online form	Total support (eID + Online Form)	% of support via eID
Estonia	393	663	1.056	37,22%
Belgium	418	2.963	3.381	12,36%
Italy	463	6.687	7.150	6,48%
Portugal	198	3.253	3.451	5,74%
Latvia	1	141	142	0,70%
Croatia	4	663	667	0,60%
Slovakia	6	1.254	1.260	0,48%
Germany	141	42.598	42.739	0,33%
Spain	31	15.321	15.352	0,20%
Luxembourg	1	714	715	0,14%
Total	1.656	74.257	75.913	2,18%

^{*} Consolidated figures (07/10/2020) on the first 3 ongoing initiatives under the new regulation and using eIDs.

^{**} CZ started on 13/10. Statistics for CZ not included in table because not relevant after one week.

eID status November 2021 and evolution

MS	eid	Forms	Total	eIDvsTotal	Online forms vis total	Progression of citizens using eID over one year
Belgium	9243	37157	46400	19,92%	80,08%	61,13%
Croatia	16	5849	5865	0,27%	99,73%	-54,51%
Czechia	5	9977	9982	0,05%	99,95%	N.A.
Estonia	2132	2777	4909	43,43%	56,57%	16,70%
Germany	625	213822	214447	0,29%	99,71%	-11,66%
Italy	17174	91573	108747	15,79%	84,21%	143,88%
Latvia	68	4729	4797	1,42%	98,58%	101,29%
Lithuania	1	2044	2045	0,05%	99,95%	N.A.
Luxembourg	2	2439	2441	0,08%	99,92%	-41,42%
Portugal	1978	26039	28017	7,06%	92,94%	23,05%
Slovakia	51	16251	16302	0,31%	99,69%	-34,30%
Spain	34	31900	31934	0,11%	99,89%	-47,27%
Total	31329	444557	475886	6,58%	93,42%	201,79%

Agenda

1. Central Collection System State of play
2. eID State of Play
3. Use of File exchange service

Cohesion Policy – state of play

- **21** MS have uploaded their Annex VI
- **6** MS still to upload their Annex VI (HR,CY,DK,LV,NL,PT)
- 17 Annexes VI uploaded within the 3 months period (10 Annex VI were missing on 16/10/2021)
- MS that have not yet provided/uploaded Annexes VI or in wrong format are in the process of being contacted

File Exchange Service – Lessons learned (1/4)

The FES has been used two times since last October:

1. Test campaign: 02/10/2020 – 02/02/2021
2. Cohesion policy used the File Exchange Service to submit electronic statements of support on 16/07/2021

Documentation for Member States was provided before the first test campaign and is available in the FES (https://classified.circabc.europa.eu/ui/group/366445f4-7fc9-4d2d-b8ef-f00c27e9c16e/library/57b09d0f-91ba-4548-b1ad-7153b90827a4?p=1&n=10&sort=modified_DESC)

Lessons learned (2/4)

- The process works and all stakeholders demonstrated their capabilities to handle it.
- Less MS encryption credentials had to be renewed for Cohesion policy (4 MS) vs test campaign (10 MS).
- We should aim that 0 credentials are renewed during a transfer -> MS to inform the EC whenever there is a change of staff responsible for the FES (refer to the documentation and expert group meeting presentation 22/10/2020).
- Some new MS representatives were not aware of the process. Please inform the EC for every new contact person and share the FES documentation.

Lessons learned (3/4)

Reach consensus on a coordinated approach on the start date of the verification process in case organisers use different channels for transmission:

- Organisers can decide to **use the FES to transfer both the electronic and paper statements** as well as the Annex V. Commission will then **transfer all documents for all MS in one go**. The three-months verification period for all MS will start as of then.
- However, organisers can also decide to submit the statements of supports for each Member State via **different channels**, e.g. by handing in paper statements physically (via mail or by hand, and on different dates) and electronic ones via the FES. As a result, **it is not likely that a Member State receives all documents at the same time**.
- Proposal: In such a scenario, Commission will coordinate the transfer with organisers that use FES, and agree that all Annex V are uploaded in the FES. Commission will submit the Annex V and the electronic statements of support – uploaded in the FES - to the Member States **only after organisers have declared that all paper forms have been received by the Member States**. The three-month counter starts as of then.

Lessons learned (4/4)

- Some Annex VI were not following the Annex VI templates of the ECI Regulation. MS are free to use their own language and to attach their own national decision to the Annex VI, however please use the right format of the Annex VI certificate
- Some Annexes VI were referring to the wrong ECI Regulation (Cohesion Policy was registered under the old Regulation and the Annexes VI should have referred to it).
- Some Member States did not upload their Annex VI on the File Exchange Service but sent it directly to the organisers. While there is no obligation to do so under the Regulation, it is a good practice to do so.

Conclusions and next actions on the FES

- Feel free to provide any feedback on the FES (SG-ECI-EXPERT-GROUP@ec.europa.eu ; DIGIT-ECI@ec.europa.eu)
- Commission will send a short questionnaire to gather feedback on the proposed approach, based on the feedback received, it will finalise and circulate its guidance to be applied to the next cases.
- Initiative “Save bees and farmers !” informed the E.C. that they will submit to Member States. They are reflecting on using the FES (not confirmed yet). This is also an initiative that was registered under the old ECI regulation (Annex VI should refer to the old ECI regulation).
- There will be another test campaign in 2022 in case no initiative plans to use the FES to transfer its statements to all Member States within one year.

Q&A

Business Legal department: SG-ECI-EXPERT-GROUP@ec.europa.eu

IT department: DIGIT-ECI@ec.europa.eu

Network of national contact points on ECI; Meeting of 26 October 2021

Regulation 2019/788, Article 4(6): „*Each Member State shall establish one or more contact points to provide, free of charge, information and assistance to groups of organisers, in accordance with applicable Union and national law.*”

- Online network meeting of 26 October 2021. Agenda included: presentation of the results of the NCP survey, best practice examples by three NCPs (Portugal, Austria and Lithuania), presentation of the tools of the **#EUTakeTheInitiative** information campaign
- Feedback on the meeting – flash survey: recommended elements for future meetings; reactions to the question “do you think your NCP could help enhance the ECI communication campaign in your country? If so, how?”