The number of European citizens’ initiatives that have successfully reached the required number of support statements for the European Commission to take action, continues to grow. Some have resulted in new legislation, while others have had other meaningful results. All of them have built networks around issues and raised awareness among both citizens and policy-makers.

**ORGANISERS’ GOAL**

Legislation to protect human beings from the moment of conception in the areas of competence of the European Union

- EU projects must follow the laws of the country in which research is carried out;
- all EU-funded projects must be scientifically validated by peer review and must undergo rigorous ethical review;
- EU funds may not be used for the derivation of new stem cell lines, or for research that destroys embryos.

**ENGAGEMENT**

1,721,626 signatories from 28 EU Member States

**FOLLOW-UP**

The European Commission decided not to submit a legislative proposal considering that:

We have engaged with this citizens’ initiative and given its request all due attention. The Commission will continue to apply the strict ethical rules and restrictions in place for EU-funded research, including that we will not fund the destruction of embryos.

MÁIRE GEGHEGAN-QUINN
Former European Commissioner for Research, Innovation and Science – 28 May 2014

Follow updates from the European Citizens’ Initiative here:

Check out detailed Success Stories in the ECI Forum here: