European citizens’ initiative

Questionnaire to Member States

Expert Group on European citizens’ initiative

Meeting of 30 September 2022
Context and objectives

• Review of Regulation (EU) 2019/788
• Collection of information from MS about their experience with the ECI
• Focus on all MS responsibilities, including:
  1. General questions
  2. Questions on verification of Statements of support (SoS) (for competent authorities)
  3. Questions on information and assistance (for National Contact Points - NCPs)
  4. Questions on certification of Individual Online Collection System (IOCS) (only for concerned MS’ authorities)
1. General

- Minimum age to support an initiative
- Sanctions in case of false declarations or fraudulent use of data
- Availability of eID means? Which ones?
  - If not, when does eID plan to be introduced?
- Impact of Covid-19 crisis
  - Effectiveness of temporary measures?
- Data protection
  - Procedure for erasure of SoS in compliance with Article 19(6)
1. General

- Most significant improvements from MS perspective:
  - Clearer rules which make the European citizens’ initiative more accessible
  - Clearer roles and responsibilities for personal data protection
  - Enhanced support for organisers
  - Easier access for citizens to support initiatives (also via the Central Online Collection System)
  - Increased visibility for the ECI, including with the help of the National Contact Points
  - Higher impact for initiatives
  - None of the above
2. Verification

• MS general feedback
  • Type of Statements of support requiring more efforts/time to verify?
    - Paper forms
    - Online forms via IOCS
    - Central Online Collection System (COCS) forms
    - COCS forms with eID
  
  • Type of Statements of support with highest rejection rate?
    - Paper forms
    - Online forms
    - eIDs (in case of MS having enabled it in COCS)
2. Verification

- Method used?
  - Exhaustive
  - Sampling
  - Sample size?
  - Identification of false errors rate?
  - Extrapolation of results

- Type of registry(ies) relied on?
  - Population
  - Electoral
  - Other
2. Verification

• Most common irregularities?
  - Lack of identity details
  - Multiple SoS
  - Lack of coherence of the personal data
  - Content of initiative inconsistent with the text published in the Eci register
  - Scanned paper versions not readable
  - Signatory is not resident
  - Invalid date
  - Signatory below legal age
  - No signature and/or date

• Suspicions of fraud or fraudulent use of data?
2. Verification

• File Exchange Service (FES)
  • Level of satisfaction with the support and guidance materials provided?
  • Suggestions for improvements?
  • Overall satisfaction regarding the functioning of the FES?
3. Information & assistance to citizens – Role of National Contact Points (NCPs)

- Frequency of citizens’ requests
- Means to provide information to citizens/organisers
  - institution website
  - institution’s social media channels
  - national events
  - targeted publications on the ECI
  - ECI visibility in public spaces
  - By reaching out with other relevant national institutions and partners
  - By responding to citizens/media requests
3. Information & assistance to citizens – Role of National Contact Points (NCPs)

• Cooperation with other actors (ECI ambassadors, COM rep.)?

• Feedback on communication materials
  • Is current material enough to fulfill your role?
  • How useful is current material?
  • Which additional material may be needed?
4. Certification of Individual Online Collection System (IOCS)

- Do you use testing procedures on security rules and requirements for the certification of IOCS?
- Encountered difficulties in checking compliance with the technical specifications provided in Article 11(4) of the ECI Regulation?
- Quality of documentation relating to risk management provided by organisers?
- Have you detected issues preventing the certification of an IOCS?
- Have you conducted checks in the course of collection?
- Other challenges?
Questionnaire to MS

START the SURVEY

(available in all EU official languages)

Thank you