

POLICY DEPARTMENTS

Ban glyphosate

European Citizens' Initiative

Public hearing - 20 November 2017

Purpose

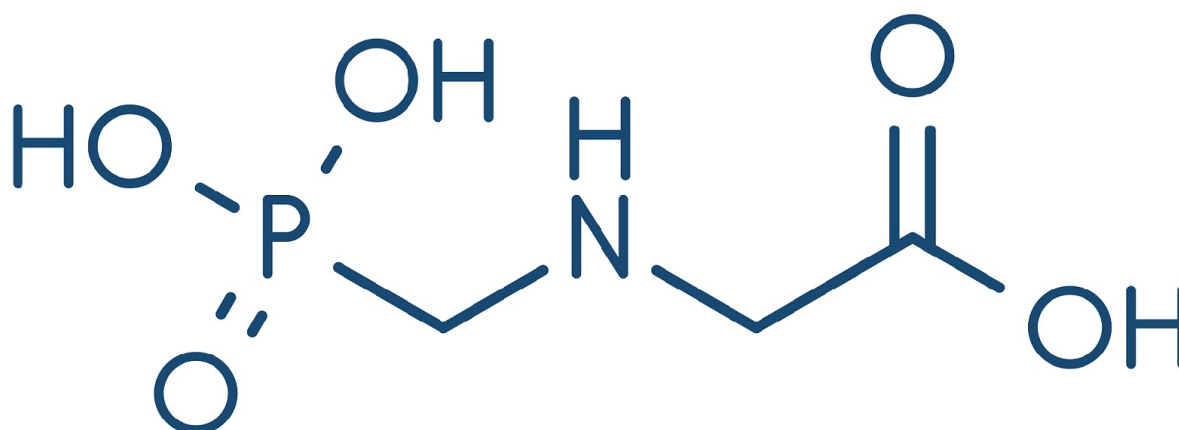
The European Parliament is holding a public hearing on the European Citizens' Initiative "Ban glyphosate and protect people and the environment from toxic pesticides", on 20 November 2017, in Brussels. The Citizens' Initiative calls on the European Commission to propose to Member States a ban on glyphosate, to reform the pesticide approval procedure, and to set EU-wide mandatory reduction targets for pesticide use.

The public hearing is organised by the Committee on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety, together with the Committee on Petitions, the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development, and the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy.

Inside

This publications provides extracts from relevant supporting analyses provided by Parliament's Policy Departments for the Committees on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety, on Constitutional Affairs and on Petitions.

Scan the QR codes or click on the titles of the publications for access.



Publications

[EU pesticide risk assessment system: the case of glyphosate: workshop proceedings](#) - September 2016

This report summarises the workshop held in May 2016, which dealt with, amongst others: the environmental effects of glyphosate on biodiversity; the status of the precautionary principle; the challenges and options based on available research and evidence; the findings of the IARC (International Agency for Research on Cancer) and EFSA (European Food Safety Authority); the difference between hazard assessment and risk assessment; and the ongoing ECHA (European Chemicals Agency) evaluation of glyphosate.



[Fact Sheet on chemicals, including pesticides](#) - June 2017

EU chemicals legislation aims to protect human health and the environment and to prevent barriers to trade. It consists of rules governing the marketing and use of particular chemical products, harmonised restrictions on placing on the market and use of hazardous substances, and rules governing major accidents and exports of dangerous substances. The most important achievement at EU level is the REACH regulation on the registration, evaluation, authorisation and applicable restrictions.



[Fact Sheet on the European Citizens' Initiative](#) - June 2017

The European Citizens' Initiative (ECI) is an important instrument of participatory democracy in the European Union, allowing one million EU citizens residing in at least one quarter of the Member States to invite the Commission to submit a proposal for a legal act to implement the EU Treaties. Since the application of Regulation (EU) No 211/2011 - establishing detailed procedures and conditions for the ECI - until June 2017, three initiatives were successfully submitted to the Commission. This Fact Sheet gives an overview of the ECI process, the ongoing initiatives (until June 2017) and the role of the European Parliament in establishing this instrument.



[Towards a revision of the European Citizens' Initiative?](#) - July 2015

This study provides an overview of the most significant difficulties faced by organisers when setting up and running a European Citizens' Initiative (ECI) and an in-depth analysis of the possible solutions based on a review of the latest reports by EU Institutions on this issue. The study proposes recommendations or measures to improve the ECI as an effective tool for participatory democracy in the EU in view of the discussions concerning the revision of Regulation (EU) No 211/2011 on the ECI. The goal is to define an ECI process with fewer costs and unnecessary burdens for citizens, empowering them to actively participate in shaping the future of Europe.



[European Citizens' Initiative: first lessons of implementation](#) - May 2014

This study identifies difficulties faced by organisers when setting up and running a European Citizens' Initiative (ECI). It analyses possible solutions and proposes recommendations to improve the ECI as an effective tool for participatory democracy in the EU. Among the obstacles faced by ECI organisers and citizens, the main ones concern: information and support provided to ECI organisers; the free software offered by the Commission for the online collection of signatures; the numerous different requirements and corresponding forms to sign ECIs in different Member States; and the disparity of understanding of what the ECI's objectives are.



Fact Sheets on the EU



The Fact Sheets give an overview of European integration and of Parliament's contribution to the process. They cover six main themes:

- the EU's functioning;
- a citizens' Europe;
- the internal market;
- economic and monetary union;
- sectoral policies; and
- external relations.

They are available in 23 languages.
www.europarl.europa.eu/factsheets

Policy Departments

The policy departments provide high-level independent expertise, analysis and advice at the request of committees and other parliamentary bodies. Their expertise covers all areas of activity of Parliament. They deliver policy analysis in a wide variety of formats, feeding directly into the legislative work of committees or members' delegations. Policy departments also organise events, including workshops and expert panels, which enhance Parliament's analytical capacity and develop common approaches to current political issues.

www.europarl.europa.eu/supporting-analyses

Monthly Highlights

The Monthly Highlights provide an overview, at a glance, of the on-going work of the policy departments, including a selection of the latest and forthcoming publications, and future events.

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