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*Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs*

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**2010/0074(COD)**

13.10.2010

# **AMENDMENTS**

## **32 - 142**

**Draft opinion**  
**Kinga Göncz, Cecilia Wikström**  
(PE448.978v01-00)

on the citizens' initiative

Proposal for a regulation  
(COM(2010)0119 – C7-0089/2010 – 2010/0074(COD))

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**EN**

*United in diversity*

**EN**

AM\_Com\_LegOpinion

**Amendment 32**

**Anna Maria Corazza Bildt, Mariya Nedelcheva, Georgios Papanikolaou, Salvatore Iacolino**

**Proposal for a regulation**

**Recital 3**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(3) These procedures and conditions should be clear, simple, user-friendly and proportionate to the nature of the citizens' initiative.

*Amendment*

(3) These procedures and conditions should be clear, simple, user-friendly and proportionate to the nature of the citizens' initiative, ***so as to encourage participation by citizens and to make the Union more accessible.***

Or.en

**Amendment 33**

**Anna Maria Corazza Bildt, Mariya Nedelcheva**

**Proposal for a regulation**

**Recital 3 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(3a) It is important that information campaigns concerning citizens' initiatives be organised, in order to raise citizens' awareness and to provide accurate information on this new instrument. The Commission and the European Parliament, via their respective representations and offices in the Member States, should upon request provide citizens with information and informal advice about citizens' initiatives, notably as regards the admissibility criteria, the values and competencies of the Union and the European Treaties. A user's guide to the citizens' initiatives should be prepared in every official language of the Union and should be available online.***

Or.en

### *Justification*

*In order to avoid raising false expectations and misunderstanding on the nature and the scope of the ECI information campaigns become crucial. The amendment aims to improve the citizens awareness and accurate information on this new instrument.*

#### **Amendment 34** **Cornelis de Jong, Rui Tavares**

##### **Proposal for a regulation** **Recital 4 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(4a) These procedures should respect the fact that, in addition to being able to submit a citizens' initiative, citizens may present individual petitions to the European Parliament and thus already have a means of recourse to the European Parliament, even when they seek to amend or change the Treaties.***

Or.en

#### **Amendment 35** **Judith Sargentini on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group**

##### **Proposal for a regulation** **Recital 5**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(5) It is necessary to establish the minimum number of Member States from which citizens must come. In order to ensure that a citizens' initiative is representative of a Union interest, this number should be set at ***one third*** of Member States.

(5) It is necessary to establish the minimum number of Member States from which citizens must come. In order to ensure that a citizens' initiative is representative of a Union interest, this number should be set at ***one fifth*** of Member States.

Or.en

**Amendment 36**  
**Véronique Mathieu**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Recital 5**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(5) It is necessary to establish the minimum number of Member States from which citizens must come. In order to ensure that a citizens' initiative is representative of a Union interest, this number should be set at one *third* of Member States.

*Amendment*

(5) It is necessary to establish the minimum number of Member States from which citizens must come. In order to ensure that a citizens' initiative is representative of a Union interest, this number should be set at one *fifth* of Member States.

Or.fr

**Amendment 37**  
**Judith Sargentini on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Recital 7**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(7) It is appropriate to fix a minimum age for supporting a citizens' initiative. This should be set *as* the age *at which citizens are entitled to vote in the European Parliament elections*.

*Amendment*

(7) It is appropriate to fix a minimum age for supporting a citizens' initiative. This should be set *at* the age *of 16 years*.

Or.en

**Amendment 38**  
**Judith Sargentini on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Recital 7 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(7a) A minimum organised structure is needed in order to successfully carry through a citizens' initiative. This should*

*take the form of a citizens' committee, composed of natural persons (organisers) coming from a number of different Member States, in order to encourage the emergence of European-wide issues and to foster reflection on those issues. For the sake of transparency and smooth and efficient communication, the citizens' committee should designate representatives to perform a liaison function between the committee and the institutions of the Union throughout the procedure.*

Or.en

*Justification*

*The citizens' initiative is conceived in order to give the opportunity to citizens to participate in the democratic life of the Union. It should only be open to natural persons who establish a citizens' committee.*

**Amendment 39**  
**Georgios Papanikolaou, Anna Maria Corazza Bildt**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Recital 7 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(7a) It is important to involve young people and to encourage them to participate in the citizens' initiatives. Therefore, in the long term, a European system for the verification of signatures should be set up. This would make it possible to have one common minimum age for signing purposes throughout the Union.*

Or.en

*Justification*

*In the proposal, Member States have the responsibility for checking signatures. To involve young people, we should aim at developing a system for checking signatures at EU wide level*

*in order to ensure a common minimum age.*

## **Amendment 40**

**Judith Sargentini on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group**

### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Recital 8**

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

(8) In order to ensure coherence and transparency in relation to proposed citizens' initiatives, it should be mandatory to register such initiatives on a website made available by the Commission prior to collecting the necessary statements of support from citizens; proposals that are ***abusive or devoid of seriousness*** should not be registered ***and the Commission should reject the registration of proposals which would be manifestly against the values of the Union.*** The Commission should deal with registration in accordance with the general principles of good administration.

##### *Amendment*

(8) In order to ensure coherence and transparency in relation to proposed citizens' initiatives, ***and to avoid a situation in which signatures are collected for a proposal which does not fall within the scope of this Regulation,*** it should be mandatory to register such initiatives on a website made available by the Commission prior to collecting the necessary statements of support from citizens; proposals that are ***not citizens' initiatives in accordance with this Regulation*** should not be registered. ***Registration is an administrative procedure aimed at selecting those initiatives that fall within the scope of this Regulation; therefore any refusal of registration should be based only on legal grounds and not, on any account, on grounds of political expediency.*** The Commission should deal with registration in accordance with the general principles of good administration, ***and should therefore be obliged to inform the organisers of an initiative of the reasons for any refusal to register an initiative and of the legal remedies available to them in that event. It should also be made clear by the Commission that registration and the collection of the required number of statements of support will not necessarily result in the Commission adopting a proposal for a legal act and that the registration of an initiative does not constitute a formal decision on competence issues.***

*Justification*

*This concerns the abolition of the admissibility check: Commission only verifies if a certain initiative is a citizens' initiative pursuant to the Regulation. Then, the initiative should be registered and the organisers cannot be prevented from collecting signatures. But in order to be able to prevent using the initiative for provoking decisions by the Commission on competence issues, it should be explained to organisers that the registration means simply that the initiative in the Commission's view is a European citizens' initiative and not a formal decision on competence issues.*

**Amendment 41**  
**Cecilia Wikström, Kinga Gönz**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Recital 8**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(8) In order to ensure coherence and transparency in relation to proposed citizens' initiatives, it should be mandatory to register such initiatives on a website made available by the Commission prior to collecting the necessary statements of support from citizens; proposals that are abusive or devoid of seriousness should not be registered and the Commission should reject the registration of proposals which would be manifestly against the values of the Union. The Commission should deal with registration in accordance with the general principles of good administration.

*Amendment*

(8) In order to ensure coherence and transparency in relation to proposed citizens' initiatives, it should be mandatory to register such initiatives on a website made available by the Commission prior to collecting the necessary statements of support from citizens; proposals that are abusive or devoid of seriousness should not be registered and the Commission should reject the registration of proposals which would be manifestly against the values of the Union, ***as set out in Article 2 of the Treaty on European Union***. The Commission should deal with registration in accordance with the general principles of good administration.

Or.en

**Amendment 42**  
**Philip Claeys**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Recital 8**



*Text proposed by the Commission*

(8) In order to ensure coherence and transparency in relation to proposed citizens' initiatives, it should be mandatory to register such initiatives on a website made available by the Commission prior to collecting the necessary statements of support from citizens; proposals that are abusive *or devoid of seriousness* should not be registered **and the Commission should reject the registration of proposals which would be manifestly against the values of the Union**. The Commission should deal with registration in accordance with the general principles of good administration.

*Amendment*

(8) In order to ensure coherence and transparency in relation to proposed citizens' initiatives, it should be mandatory to register such initiatives on a website made available by the Commission prior to collecting the necessary statements of support from citizens; proposals that are abusive should not be registered. The Commission should deal with registration in accordance with the general principles of good administration.

Or.nl

**Amendment 43**  
**Judith Sargentini on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Recital 9**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(9) **The organiser of a proposed** citizens' initiative **should be responsible for the collection of the necessary** statements of support from citizens.

*Amendment*

(9) **Once a proposal is registered as a** citizens' initiative, statements of support from citizens **may be submitted by the organisers**.

Or.en

*Justification*

*The amendment to Recital 9 reinforces the position that the registration is only aimed at deciding whether a European citizens' initiative is on the table or not. If it is so, organisers do not have to comply with any other requirements (admissibility, etc.) but they are free to exercise their right under the Treaty, namely to collect signatures in favour of an initiative.*

**Amendment 44**  
**Judith Sargentini on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Recital 10**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(10) *It* is appropriate to provide for statements of support to be collected in paper form as well as online. Online collection systems should have adequate security features in place in order to ensure, inter alia, that the person ***can be identified*** and that the data are securely stored. ***For this purpose, the Commission should be required to set out*** detailed technical specifications for online collection systems.

*Amendment*

(10) ***In order to put modern technology to good use as a tool of participatory democracy, it*** is appropriate to provide for statements of support to be collected in paper form as well as online. Online collection systems should have adequate security features in place in order to ensure, inter alia, that the person ***is eligible to sign and signs only once***, and that the data are securely stored. ***The detailed technical specifications should be worked out at an expert level and be regularly adapted to technical developments; the power to adopt*** detailed technical specifications for online collection systems ***should therefore be delegated to the Commission.***

Or.en

**Amendment 45**  
**Cornelis de Jong, Rui Tavares**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Recital 10**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(10) It is appropriate to provide for statements of support to be collected in paper form as well as online. Online collection systems should have adequate security features in place in order to ensure, inter alia, that the person can be identified and that the data are securely stored. For this purpose, the Commission should be required to set out detailed technical specifications for online

*Amendment*

(10) It is appropriate to provide for statements of support to be collected in paper form as well as online. Online collection systems should have adequate security features in place in order to ensure, inter alia, that the person can be identified and that the data are securely stored. For this purpose, the Commission should be required to set out detailed technical specifications for online

collection systems.

collection systems *and to guarantee the development of an open-source software to that effect. The daily management of the central website should be placed under the supervision of the European Parliament.*

Or.en

**Amendment 46**  
**Kinga Gál**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Recital 12**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(12) It is appropriate to ensure that statements of support for a citizens' initiative are collected within a specific time-limit. In order to ensure that proposed citizens' initiatives remain relevant, whilst taking account of the complexity of collecting statements of support across the European Union, that time-limit should not be longer than **12 months** from the date of registration of the proposed initiative.

*Amendment*

(12) It is appropriate to ensure that statements of support for a citizens' initiative are collected within a specific time-limit. In order to ensure that proposed citizens' initiatives remain relevant, whilst taking account of the complexity of collecting statements of support across the European Union, that time-limit should not be longer than **24 months** from the date of registration of the proposed initiative.

Or.en

*Justification*

*The time limit for collection of signatures should be extended to two years in order to ensure sufficient time frame for the collection of the signatures.*

**Amendment 47**  
**Véronique Mathieu**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Recital 12**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(12) It is appropriate to ensure that statements of support for a citizens'

*Amendment*

(12) It is appropriate to ensure that statements of support for a citizens'

initiative are collected within a specific time-limit. In order to ensure that proposed citizens' initiatives remain relevant, whilst taking account of the complexity of collecting statements of support across the European Union, that time-limit should not be longer than **12** months from the date of registration of the proposed initiative.

initiative are collected within a specific time-limit. In order to ensure that proposed citizens' initiatives remain relevant, whilst taking account of the complexity of collecting statements of support across the European Union, that time-limit should not be longer than **18** months from the date of registration of the proposed initiative.

Or.fr

**Amendment 48**  
**Petru Constantin Luhan**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Recital 12**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(12) It is appropriate to ensure that statements of support for a citizens' initiative are collected within a specific time-limit. In order to ensure that proposed citizens' initiatives remain relevant, whilst taking account of the complexity of collecting statements of support across the European Union, that time-limit should not be longer than **12 months** from the date of registration of the proposed initiative.

*Amendment*

(12) It is appropriate to ensure that statements of support for a citizens' initiative are collected within a specific time-limit. In order to ensure that proposed citizens' initiatives remain relevant, whilst taking account of the complexity of collecting statements of support across the European Union, that time-limit should not be longer than **18 months** from the date of registration of the proposed initiative.

Or.en

**Amendment 49**  
**Anna Maria Corazza Bildt, Mariya Nedelcheva, Georgios Papanikolaou, Salvatore Iacolino**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Recital 12 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(12a) It is crucial that transparency be maintained throughout the whole process. Therefore, any financial or political support received should be indicated in the statement of support form relating to***

*each citizens' initiative. Funding by political parties and European political groups should not be permitted.*

Or.en

**Amendment 50**  
**Judith Sargentini on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Recital 13**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(13) It is appropriate that the Commission should take a decision on the admissibility of proposed initiatives at a sufficiently early stage. The organiser should therefore request such a decision after it has collected 300.000 statements of support for the proposed initiative from signatories coming from at least three Member States.*

*deleted*

Or.en

**Amendment 51**  
**Anna Maria Corazza Bildt**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Recital 13**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*(13) It is appropriate that the Commission should take a decision on the admissibility of proposed initiatives at a sufficiently early stage. The organiser should therefore request such a decision after it has collected 300.000 statements of support for the proposed initiative from signatories coming from at least three Member States.*

*deleted*

Or.en

**Amendment 52**  
**Kinga Gál**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Recital 13**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(13) It is appropriate that the Commission should take a decision on the admissibility of proposed initiatives at a sufficiently early stage. The organiser should therefore request such a decision after it has collected **300.000** statements of support for the proposed initiative from signatories coming from at least three Member States.

*Amendment*

(13) It is appropriate that the Commission should take a decision on the admissibility of proposed initiatives at a sufficiently early stage. The organiser should therefore request such a decision after it has collected **150 000** statements of support for the proposed initiative from signatories coming from at least three Member States **or 100 000 statements of support for the proposed initiative from signatories coming from at least five Member States.**

Or.en

*Justification*

*In order to filter for unserious initiatives and to ensure that an initiative represents a common interest of the Union as a whole, it is suggested that the initiative be checked after 150.000 statements of support being collected from at least three countries - by this giving the chance for smaller number of countries with larger number of citizens to initiate - or 100.000 statements of support being collected from at least five countries - by this giving the chance for countries with smaller number of citizens to initiate.*

**Amendment 53**  
**Judith Sargentini on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Recital 14**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

***(14) The Commission should, within a period of two months after receiving a request from the organiser, adopt a decision on its admissibility. A proposed citizens' initiative should be considered***

*Amendment*

***deleted***

*admissible if it falls within the framework of the powers of the Commission and concerns a matter where a legal act of the Union can be adopted for the purpose of implementing the Treaties.*

Or.en

**Amendment 54**  
**Anna Maria Corazza Bildt**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Recital 14**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(14) The Commission should, within a period of two months after receiving a request from the *organiser*, adopt a decision on its admissibility. A proposed citizens' initiative should be considered admissible if it falls within the framework of the powers of the Commission and concerns a matter where a legal act of the Union can be adopted for the purpose of implementing the Treaties.

*Amendment*

(14) The Commission should, within a period of two months after receiving a request from the *organisers*, adopt a decision on its admissibility. A proposed citizens' initiative should be considered admissible if it *does not run counter to the values of the Union, is not abusive or devoid of seriousness*, falls within the framework of the powers of the Commission and concerns a matter where a legal act of the Union can be adopted for the purpose of implementing the Treaties.

Or.en

**Amendment 55**  
**Judith Sargentini on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Recital 15**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

(15) *It* is appropriate to provide that, where a citizens' initiative has received the necessary statements of support from signatories *and provided it is considered admissible*, each Member State should be responsible for the verification and

*Amendment*

(15) *In the absence of a competent Union electoral authority, it* is appropriate to provide that, where a citizens' initiative has received the necessary statements of support from signatories, each Member State should be responsible for the

certification of statements of support collected from citizens coming from that State. Taking account of the need to limit the administrative burden for Member States, they should, within a period of three months, carry out such verifications on the basis of appropriate checks and should issue a document certifying the number of valid statements of support received.

verification and certification of statements of support collected from citizens coming from that State. Taking account of the need to limit the administrative burden for Member States, they should, within a period of three months, carry out such verifications on the basis of appropriate checks, ***which may be based on random sampling***, and should issue a document certifying the number of valid statements of support received.

Or.en

#### **Amendment 56**

**Cornelis de Jong, Rui Tavares, Marie-Christine Vergiat**

#### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Recital 16 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(16a) It is of the utmost importance that organisers of a citizen's initiative provide a fully detailed declaration of any financial means used to support and promote the initiative, in order to ensure full transparency and to identify and disqualify entities or individuals who seek to use this democratic tool in order to attain purely commercial or lucrative goals.***

Or.en

#### **Amendment 57**

**Judith Sargentini on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group**

#### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Recital 17**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(17) The Commission should examine a citizens' initiative and set out its

(17) The Commission should examine a citizens' initiative and set out its ***legal*** and



conclusions and the actions it envisages to take in response to it, ***within a period of four months.***

***political*** conclusions ***separately; it should also set out*** the actions it envisages to take in response to it. ***In order to demonstrate that a citizens' initiative supported by at least one million Union citizens and its possible follow-up are carefully examined, the Commission should explain in a clear, comprehensible and detailed manner the reasons for its intended action, and should likewise give reasons if it does not envisage taking any action.***

Or.en

**Amendment 58**  
**Cornelis de Jong, Rui Tavares**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Recital 17**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(17) The Commission ***should*** examine a ***citizens' initiative*** and ***set out*** its ***conclusions and the actions it envisages to take*** in response to it, within a period of four months.

(17) The Commission ***shall favourably*** examine a ***successful citizen's initiative*** and ***outline any intention to make use of*** its ***right of initiative*** in response to it, within a period of four months.

Or.en

**Amendment 59**  
**Anna Maria Corazza Bildt, Salvatore Iacolino, Mariya Nedelcheva**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Recital 17**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

(17) The Commission should examine a citizens' initiative and set out its conclusions and the actions it envisages to take in response to it, within a period of ***four months.***

(17) The Commission should examine a citizens' initiative and set out its conclusions and the actions it envisages to take in response to it, within a period of ***three months.***

Or.en

*Justification*

*To ensure and maintain high levels of citizen participation, it is crucial to count on a quick procedure. It is therefore considered that the European Commission shall be able to fully formulate its own conclusions about the initiative and the actions it intends to undertake within a period of three months.*

**Amendment 60**

**Anna Maria Corazza Bildt, Salvatore Iacolino, Georgios Papanikolaou**

**Proposal for a regulation**

**Recital 17 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(17a) In the case of citizens' initiatives in respect of which one million statements of support have been collected, the European Parliament can at any time call on the Commission to explain the actions it intends to take or, as the case may be, its decision not to take any action, and the reasons for doing so. In exercising its powers the European Parliament can at any time hold hearings of the organisers or adopt a resolution. The organisers may also present a petition to the European Parliament on the subject, if the criteria for doing so are met.***

Or.en

*Justification*

*In order to respond to citizens expectations and avoid frustration, it is important that the European Parliament offers other options and take a debate to clarify the Commission decision.*

**Amendment 61**

**Judith Sargentini on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group**

**Proposal for a regulation**

**Recital 17 a (new)**

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*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***(17a) The European Parliament may take any appropriate action within its powers in order to ensure that the voice of the citizens is heard.***

Or.en

**Amendment 62**  
**Véronique Mathieu**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 2 – point 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

1. "Citizens' initiative" means an initiative, submitted to the Commission in accordance with the present Regulation, inviting the Commission, within the framework of its powers, to submit any appropriate proposal on matters where citizens consider that a legal act of the Union is required for the purpose of implementing the Treaties, which has received the support of at least one million eligible signatories coming from at least one *third* of all Member States;

1. "Citizens' initiative" means an initiative, submitted to the Commission in accordance with the present Regulation, inviting the Commission, within the framework of its powers, to submit any appropriate proposal on matters where citizens consider that a legal act of the Union is required for the purpose of implementing the Treaties, which has received the support of at least one million eligible signatories coming from at least one *fifth* of all Member States;

Or.fr

**Amendment 63**  
**Judith Sargentini on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 2 – point 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

1. "Citizens" initiative" means an initiative, submitted to the Commission in accordance with the present Regulation, inviting the Commission, within the

1. "Citizens" initiative" means an initiative, submitted to the Commission in accordance with the present Regulation, inviting the Commission, within the

framework of its powers, to submit any appropriate proposal on matters where citizens consider that a legal act of the Union is required for the purpose of implementing the Treaties, which has received the support of at least one million eligible signatories coming from at least *one third* of all Member States;

framework of its powers, to submit any appropriate proposal on matters where citizens consider that a legal act of the Union is required for the purpose of implementing the Treaties, which has received the support of at least one million eligible signatories coming from at least *one fifth* of all Member States;

Or.en

**Amendment 64**  
**Csaba Sógor**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 2 – point 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. "Citizens' initiative" means an initiative, submitted to the Commission in accordance with the present Regulation, inviting the Commission, within the framework of its powers, to submit any appropriate proposal on matters where citizens consider that a legal act of the Union is required for the purpose of implementing the Treaties, which has received the support of at least one million eligible signatories coming from at least *one third* of all Member States;

*Amendment*

1. "Citizens' initiative" means an initiative, submitted to the Commission in accordance with the present Regulation, inviting the Commission, within the framework of its powers, to submit any appropriate proposal on matters where citizens consider that a legal act of the Union is required for the purpose of implementing the Treaties, which has received the support of at least one million eligible signatories coming from at least *one fifth* of all Member States;

Or.hu

**Amendment 65**  
**Marie-Christine Vergiat, Rui Tavares**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 2 – point 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

2. "Signatories" means *citizens* of the Union that have supported a given citizens' initiative by completing a statement of support for that initiative;

*Amendment*

2. "Signatories" means *residents* of the Union that have supported a given citizens' initiative by completing a statement of support for that initiative;

*(This amendment applies throughout the text. Adopting it will necessitate corresponding changes throughout.)*

Or.fr

*Justification*

*Nationals of non-EU countries residing in the EU take part in the economic, social and cultural life of the Member States and thus contribute to the wealth of the EU. They are therefore actively living as citizens since citizenship in the strict sense of the term cannot be restricted purely to exercising the right to vote. The question of how to facilitate their integration is often raised. As participation in a citizens' initiative has no direct legislative consequences, giving all those who reside within the EU the right to take part in such an initiative may constitute a important gesture in their direction.*

**Amendment 66**  
**Judith Sargentini on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 2 – point 3**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

3. "**Organiser**" means *a natural or legal person or organisation* responsible for the preparation and submission of a citizens' initiative to the Commission.

*Amendment*

3. "**Organisers**" means natural *persons forming a citizens' committee* responsible for the preparation and submission of a citizens' initiative to the Commission.

Or.en

*Justification*

*A genuine citizens' initiative should, per definition, be a tool of participatory democracy which is open for citizens of the Union and not for legal persons. Therefore the organisers should only be citizens (natural persons). The organisers should form a citizens' committee in order to be able to launch an initiative.*

**Amendment 67**  
**Anna Maria Corazza Bildt, Mariya Nedelcheva**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 2 – point 3**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

3. "Organiser" means a natural **or legal** person **or organisation** responsible for the preparation and submission of a citizens' initiative to the Commission.

*Amendment*

3. "Organiser" means a natural person responsible for the preparation and submission of a citizens initiative to the Commission.

Or.en

*Justification*

*Only natural persons should be organiser of citizens' initiative in order to avoid possible abuse of existing business organisations, political parties, etc.*

**Amendment 68**  
**Véronique Mathieu**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 2 – point 3**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

3. "Organiser" means a natural **or legal** person **or organisation** responsible for the preparation and submission of a citizens' initiative to the Commission.

*Amendment*

3. "Organiser" means a natural person responsible for the preparation and submission of a citizens' initiative to the Commission.

Or.fr

**Amendment 69**  
**Csaba Sógor**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 2 – point 3**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

3. "Organiser" means a natural or legal person or organisation responsible for the preparation and submission of a citizens' initiative to the Commission.

*Amendment*

3. "Organiser" means a natural or legal person or organisation responsible for the preparation and submission of a citizens' initiative to the Commission., **with the exception of political parties, trade unions and lobby groups.**

**Amendment 70**  
**Anna Maria Corazza Bildt**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 3 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. *Where the organiser is a natural person, that person shall be a citizen* of the Union and be of the age to be entitled to vote in the European elections.

*Amendment*

1. *The organisers shall be citizens* of the Union and be of the age to be entitled to vote in the European elections. *They should not be currently serving as directly elected politicians.*

*The organisers shall form a citizens' committee of at least seven persons coming from at least one fourth of the Member States.*

*The organisers shall designate a contact person for the Organising Committee.*

Or.en

*Justification*

*It is important to keep the difference between representative democracy and direct democracy. This is an instrument for the citizens. Elected politicians should use other instruments to propose legislation.*

**Amendment 71**  
**Judith Sargentini on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 3 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. *Where the organiser is a natural person, that person shall be a citizen* of the Union and *be of the age to be entitled to vote in the European elections.*

*Amendment*

1. *Organisers shall be citizens* of the Union and *at least 16 years old.*

Or.en

**Amendment 72**  
**Véronique Mathieu**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 3 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. **Where the organiser is a natural person, that person** shall be a citizen of the Union and be of the age to be entitled to vote in the European elections.

*Amendment*

1. **The** organiser shall be a citizen of the Union and be of the age to be entitled to vote in the European elections.

Or.fr

**Amendment 73**  
**Judith Sargentini on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 3 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 1 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**Organisers shall form a citizens' committee of at least seven persons who are residents of at least one fifth of the Member States.**

**The organisers shall designate one representative and one substitute. They shall perform a liaison function between the citizens' committee and the institutions of the European Union throughout the procedure. They shall be mandated to speak and act on behalf of the citizens' committee.**

Or.en

*Justification*

*In order to facilitate the emergence of real European-wide issues, the reflection on those issues and the collection of signatures throughout the Union, the initiative should be proposed by a defined number of citizens who should set up a citizens' committee. The committee should be able to speak with one voice, hence the obligation to designate a contact person and a*



*substitute.*

**Amendment 74**

**Anna Maria Corazza Bildt**

**Proposal for a regulation**

**Article 3 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*Where the organiser is a legal person or an organisation it shall be established in a Member State. Organisations which do not have legal personality under the applicable national law shall have representatives that have the capacity to undertake legal obligations on their behalf and assume liability.*

*deleted*

Or.en

*Justification*

*Only natural persons should be organiser of citizens initiative in order to avoid possible abuse of existing business organisations, political parties, etc.*

**Amendment 75**

**Véronique Mathieu**

**Proposal for a regulation**

**Article 3 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*Where the organiser is a legal person or an organisation it shall be established in a Member State. Organisations which do not have legal personality under the applicable national law shall have representatives that have the capacity to undertake legal obligations on their behalf and assume liability.*

*deleted*

Or.fr

**Amendment 76**  
**Judith Sargentini on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 3 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

*Where the organiser is a legal person or an organisation it shall be established in a Member State. Organisations which do not have legal personality under the applicable national law shall have representatives that have the capacity to undertake legal obligations on their behalf and assume liability.*

*deleted*

Or.en

**Amendment 77**  
**Judith Sargentini on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 3 – paragraph 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

2. In order to be eligible to support a proposed citizens' initiative, signatories shall be citizens of the Union and shall be *of the age to be entitled to vote in the European elections.*

2. In order to be eligible to support a proposed citizens' initiative, signatories shall be citizens of the Union and shall be *at least 16 years old.*

Or.en

**Amendment 78**  
**Anna Maria Corazza Bildt**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 4 – title**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

Registration of a proposed citizens'

Registration *and admissibility* of a

initiative

proposed citizens' initiative

Or.en

**Amendment 79**  
**Anna Maria Corazza Bildt**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 4 – paragraph 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

**2. Except in the cases foreseen in paragraphs 3 and 4, the Commission shall register without delay the proposed initiative under a unique registration number and send a confirmation to the organiser.**

*Amendment*

**2. The Commission shall, within two months from the request for registration referred to in paragraph 1, take a decision on admissibility. The proposed citizens' initiative shall be considered admissible and therefore registered if it satisfies the following conditions:**

- it cannot be reasonably regarded as improper because it is abusive or devoid of seriousness;**
- it does not run counter to the values of the Union;**
- it concerns a matter where a legal act of the Union can be adopted for the purpose of implementing the Treaties; and**
- it falls within the framework of the powers of the Commission to make a proposal.**

Or.en

**Amendment 80**  
**Anna Maria Corazza Bildt**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 4 – paragraph 3**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

**3. Proposed citizens' initiatives which can be reasonably regarded as improper because they are abusive or devoid of**

*Amendment*

**deleted**

*seriousness will not be registered.*

Or.en

**Amendment 81**  
**Judith Sargentini on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 4 – paragraphs 3 and 3 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*3. Proposed citizens' initiatives which can be reasonably regarded as improper because they are abusive or devoid of seriousness will not be registered.*

*Amendment*

*3. The Commission shall register a proposed initiative within two months from its receipt when the following conditions are fulfilled:*

*(a) the citizens' committee has been formed and the contact persons have been designated;*

*(b) the title, subject-matter and objectives of the proposed initiative are identical in all linguistic versions;*

*(c) the Commission is empowered under the Treaties to submit a proposal for the requested legal act;*

*(d) the proposed initiative is not manifestly abusive, frivolous or vexatious;*

*(e) the proposed initiative is not manifestly contrary to the values of the Union as set out in Article 2 of the Treaty on European Union.*

*3a. The Commission shall refuse registration if the conditions laid down in paragraph 3 are not met.*

Or.en

*Justification*

*If a citizens' initiative fulfils all the criteria set out by the Treaty and regulation, the organisers' right to collect signatures cannot be denied and there is no need to further examine "admissibility". If it doesn't fulfil those criteria, it is not a citizens' initiative but something else (petition, letter, complaint, etc.) and the Commission can automatically deny*

*registration, but this would not be a decision on competence issues. There should be a reasonable deadline for the decision on the registration of an initiative.*

**Amendment 82**  
**Anna Maria Corazza Bildt**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 4 – paragraph 4**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**4. The Commission shall reject the registration of proposed citizens' initiatives which are manifestly against the values of the Union.**

**deleted**

Or.en

**Amendment 83**  
**Philip Claeys**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 4 – paragraph 4**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**4. The Commission shall reject the registration of proposed citizens' initiatives which are manifestly against the values of the Union.**

**deleted**

Or.nl

**Amendment 84**  
**Cecilia Wikström, Kinga Göncz**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 4 – paragraph 4**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

4. The Commission shall reject the registration of proposed citizens' initiatives which are manifestly against the values of

4. The Commission shall reject the registration of proposed citizens' initiatives which are manifestly against the values of the Union, **as set out in Article 2 of the**

the Union.

*Treaty on European Union.*

Or.en

**Amendment 85**

**Csaba Sógor**

**Proposal for a regulation**

**Article 4 – paragraph 4**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

4. The Commission shall reject the registration of proposed citizens' initiatives which are manifestly against *the values* of the Union.

*Amendment*

4. The Commission shall reject the registration of proposed citizens' initiatives which are manifestly against *human rights and the value system* of the Union.

Or.hu

**Amendment 86**

**Marie-Christine Vergiat, Rui Tavares**

**Proposal for a regulation**

**Article 4 – paragraph 4**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

4. The Commission shall reject the registration of proposed citizens' initiatives which are manifestly against the values of the Union.

*Amendment*

4. The Commission shall reject the registration of proposed citizens' initiatives which are manifestly against the values of the Union. *The Commission's reasons for rejecting initiatives shall be well-founded and be published on the website it shall set up for that purpose.*

Or.fr

*Justification*

*Transparency will undoubtedly prove educational and prevent the multiplication of inadmissible or ludicrous initiatives.*

**Amendment 87**  
**Anna Maria Corazza Bildt**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 4 – paragraph 5**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

5. A proposed citizens' initiative **that has been registered** shall be made public **in the register**.

*Amendment*

5. **The decision on admissibility shall be notified to the organisers of the** proposed citizens' initiative **and** shall be made public.

**It shall also include an indication as to which legal act or measures the Commission considers that it is appropriate to take if one million statements of support are collected in favour of that citizens' initiative. The Commission may always modify that indication at the moment when it adopts its decision on whether or not to go forward with a citizens' initiative.**

Or.en

**Amendment 88**  
**Véronique Mathieu**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 4 – paragraph 5 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

**5a. The Commission shall inform the organiser of the reasons why registration of the proposed citizens' initiative has been rejected.**

*Amendment*

Or.fr

**Amendment 89**  
**Anna Maria Corazza Bildt**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 5 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. The organiser shall be responsible for the collection of the necessary statements of support from signatories for a proposed citizens' initiative which has been registered in accordance with Article 4.

*Amendment*

1. The organiser shall be responsible for the collection of the necessary statements of support from signatories for a proposed citizens' initiative which has been registered **and declared admissible** in accordance with Article 4.

Or.en

**Amendment 90**  
**Cornelis de Jong**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 5 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

**Only** statements of support **forms which comply with the model set out in annex III may be used for this purpose. The organiser shall complete the forms as indicated in annex III prior to initiating the collection of statements of support from signatories. The information given in the forms shall correspond to the information contained in the register.**

*Amendment*

**For the purposes of the legitimate collection of** statements of support, **an indication of the signatory's full name, address, e-mail address or telephone number shall be sufficient in order to allow Member States to check the validity of the signature. The signatory's nationality and place and date of birth may be requested as optional** information.

Or.en

**Amendment 91**  
**Véronique Mathieu**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 5 – paragraph 4**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

4. All statements of support shall be collected after the date of registration of the proposed initiative and within a period that shall not exceed **12** months.

*Amendment*

4. All statements of support shall be collected after the date of registration of the proposed initiative and within a period that shall not exceed **18** months.

Or.fr



**Amendment 92**  
**Petru Constantin Luhan**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 5 – paragraph 4**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

4. All statements of support shall be collected after the date of registration of the proposed initiative and within a period that shall not exceed **12 months**.

*Amendment*

4. All statements of support shall be collected after the date of registration of the proposed initiative and within a period that shall not exceed **18 months**.

Or.en

**Amendment 93**  
**Cornelis de Jong, Rui Tavares**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 6 – paragraph 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. Where statements of support are collected electronically, the data obtained through the online collection system shall be stored in the territory of a Member State. The model for the statement of support forms may be adapted for the purpose of the electronic collection.

*Amendment*

1. Where statements of support are collected electronically, the data obtained through the online collection system shall be stored in the territory of a Member State **or centrally by the European Parliament**. The model for the statement of support forms may be adapted for the purpose of the electronic collection.

Or.en

**Amendment 94**  
**Marie-Christine Vergiat, Rui Tavares**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 6 – paragraph 1 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**1a. Data submitted by signatories through the online collection system must be**

*checked, stored and destroyed in accordance with the Union's rules on data protection and the right to privacy and be managed by independent bodies obliged to maintain confidentiality.*

Or.fr

*Justification*

*Signatories are providing personal data which must be protected from any possible form of misuse.*

**Amendment 95**  
**Judith Sargentini on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 6 – paragraph 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

2. Prior to initiating the collection of statements of support from signatories, the organiser shall ensure that the online collection system used for that purpose complies with the provisions of paragraph 4. The organiser may, at any time, ask the relevant competent authority of the Member State in which the data collected is or will be stored, to certify that the online collection system complies with those provisions. The **organiser** shall, in any case, request that certification prior to submitting statements of support for verification in accordance with Article 9.

*Amendment*

2. Prior to initiating the collection of statements of support from signatories, the organiser shall ensure that the online collection system used for that purpose complies with the provisions of paragraph 4. The organiser may, at any time, ask the relevant competent authority of the Member State in which the data collected is or will be stored, to certify that the online collection system complies with those provisions. The **citizens' committee** shall, in any case, request that certification prior to **starting the collection of statements of support and prior to** submitting **all** statements of support for verification in accordance with Article 9.

***The Commission shall develop an open-source software comprising the technical and security features necessary for compliance with the provisions of this Regulation regarding online collection systems. The software shall be freely made available to citizens' committees.***

Or.en

**Amendment 96**  
**Csaba Sógor**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 6 – paragraph 3 – subparagraph 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

Member States shall recognize the certificates issued by the competent authorities of other Member States.

*Amendment*

Member States **and the Commission** shall recognize the certificates issued by the competent authorities of other Member States

Or.hu

**Amendment 97**  
**Véronique Mathieu**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 6 – paragraph 4 – point a**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

***a. only natural persons may submit a statement of support form online;***

*Amendment*

***deleted***

Or.fr

**Amendment 98**  
**Judith Sargentini on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 6 – paragraph 4 – point a**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

a. only natural persons may submit a statement of support form online;

*Amendment*

a. only natural persons ***eligible to sign*** may submit a statement of support form online;

Or.en

**Amendment 99**  
**Judith Sargentini on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 6 – paragraph 4 – point b**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

b. *the identity of* the person can be verified;

*Amendment*

b. the *fact that each* person *submits only one statement* can be verified;

Or.en

**Amendment 100**  
**Marie-Christine Vergiat, Rui Tavares**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 6 – paragraph 5**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

5. Within 12 months following the entry into force of this Regulation, the Commission shall adopt technical specifications for the implementation of paragraph 4, in accordance with the regulatory procedure laid down in Article 19(2).

*Amendment*

5. Within *the* 12 months following the entry into force of this Regulation, the Commission shall *undertake in conjunction with the European Data Protection Supervisor an evaluation enabling it to* adopt, *where necessary,* technical specifications for the implementation of paragraph 4, in accordance with the regulatory procedure laid down in Article 19(2). *The evaluation shall be forwarded to Parliament, together with the proposals.*

Or.fr

**Amendment 101**  
**Véronique Mathieu**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 7 – paragraph 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. The signatories of a citizens' initiative shall come from at least one **third** of Member States.

*Amendment*

1. The signatories of a citizens' initiative shall come from at least one **fifth** of Member States.

Or.fr

**Amendment 102**  
**Judith Sargentini on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 7 – paragraph 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. The signatories of a citizens' initiative shall come from at least **one third** of Member States.

*Amendment*

1. The signatories of a citizens' initiative shall come from at least **one fifth** of Member States.

Or.en

**Amendment 103**  
**Csaba Sógor**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 7 – paragraph 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. The signatories of a citizens' initiative shall come from at least **one third** of Member States.

*Amendment*

1. The signatories of a citizens' initiative shall come from at least **one fifth** of Member States.

Or.hu

**Amendment 104**  
**Véronique Mathieu**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 7 – paragraph 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

2. In one **third** of Member States, signatories shall comprise at least the minimum number of citizens set out in Annex I.

*Amendment*

2. In one **fifth** of Member States, signatories shall comprise at least the minimum number of citizens set out in Annex I.

Or.fr

**Amendment 105**  
**Judith Sargentini on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 7 – paragraph 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

2. In **one third** of Member States, signatories shall comprise at least the minimum number of citizens set out in Annex I.

*Amendment*

2. In **one fifth** of Member States, signatories shall comprise at least the minimum number of citizens set out in Annex I.

Or.en

**Amendment 106**  
**Mariya Nedelcheva, Anna Maria Corazza Bildt**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 7 – paragraph 3**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

3. Signatories shall be considered as coming from the Member State which **issued the identification document indicated in their statement of support.**

*Amendment*

3. Signatories shall be considered as coming from the Member State **where they have their permanent residence.**

***A signatory who is not a national of the Member State in which he or she permanently resides may choose to be considered as coming either from the Member State in which he or she permanently resides or from the Member State of which he or she is a national.***

***A signatory permanently resident in a third country shall be considered as coming from the Member State of which he or she is a national.***

Or.en

*Justification*

*The permanent residence should be indicated instead of the identity documents. This would enable to avoid potential signatories to be dissuaded from signing. The permanent residence should be the first criterion to decide where the signatures come from. EU citizens living in another Member State than the one from which they are nationals or living outside of the EU territory should not be excluded from the possibility of participating in a citizens' initiative. The criterion that should therefore be retained to determine where the signature comes from should be their nationality.*

**Amendment 107**

**Judith Sargentini on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group**

**Proposal for a regulation  
Article 7 – paragraph 3**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

3. Signatories shall be considered as coming from the Member State ***which issued the identification document indicated in their statement of support.***

*Amendment*

3. Signatories shall be considered as coming from the Member State ***where they have their permanent residence.***

Or.en

**Amendment 108**

**Véronique Mathieu**

**Proposal for a regulation  
Article 7 – paragraph 3**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

3. Signatories shall be considered as coming from the Member State which ***issued the identification document indicated in their statement of support.***

*Amendment*

3. Signatories shall be considered as coming from the Member State which ***is their permanent place of residence.***

**Amendment 109**

**Kinga Gál**

**Proposal for a regulation**

**Article 7 – paragraph 3**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

3. Signatories shall be considered as coming from the Member State which issued the identification document indicated in their statement of support.

*Amendment*

3. Signatories shall be considered as coming from the Member State which issued the identification document indicated in their statement of support ***or from the Member State which issued a document indicating their citizenship.***

Or.en

*Justification*

*Some EU Member States do not issue identity cards for their citizens and the legislation differs from country to country, therefore, any documents certifying the citizenship recognized by the national legislation should be accepted as a proof of citizenship.*

**Amendment 110**

**Anna Maria Corazza Bildt**

**Proposal for a regulation**

**Article 8**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

***Article 8***

***Decision on the admissibility of a proposed citizens' initiative***

***1. After having collected 300.000 statements of support in accordance with Article 5 from signatories coming from at least three Member States, the organiser shall submit to the Commission a request for a decision on the admissibility of the proposed citizens' initiative. For this purpose the organiser shall use the form***

*Amendment*

***deleted***



*set out in Annex V.*

**2. The Commission shall, within a period of two months from the receipt of the request referred to in paragraph 1, take a decision on admissibility. The proposed citizens' initiative shall be considered admissible if it satisfies the following conditions:**

**a. it concerns a matter where a legal act of the Union can be adopted for the purpose of implementing the Treaties; and**

**b. it falls within the framework of the powers of the Commission to make a proposal.**

**3. The decision referred to in paragraph 2 shall be notified to the organiser of the proposed citizens' initiative and shall be made public.**

Or.en

#### *Justification*

*It is intended to reduce registration and admissibility in one step. Therefore art. 8 is not necessary as art. 4 is dealing with registration and admissibility.*

#### **Amendment 111 Kinga Gál**

#### **Proposal for a regulation Article 8 – paragraph 1**

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

1. After having collected **300.000** statements of support in accordance with Article 5 **from signatories coming from at least three Member States**, the organiser shall submit to the Commission a request for a decision on the admissibility of the proposed citizens' initiative. For this purpose the organiser shall use the form set out in Annex V.

##### *Amendment*

1. After having collected **150 000** statements of support **from signatories coming from at least three Member States or 100 000 statements of support from signatories coming from at least five Member States** in accordance with Article 5, the organiser shall submit to the Commission a request for a decision on the admissibility of the proposed citizens' initiative. For this purpose the organiser

shall use the form set out in Annex V.

Or.en

*Justification*

*In order to filter for unserious initiatives and to ensure that an initiative represents a common interest of the Union as a whole, it is suggested that the initiative be checked after 150.000 statements of support being collected from at least three countries - by this giving the chance for smaller number of countries with larger number of citizens to initiate - or 100.000 statements of support being collected from at least five countries - by this giving the chance for countries with smaller number of citizens to initiate.*

**Amendment 112**

**Anna Maria Corazza Bildt**

**Proposal for a regulation**

**Article 9 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. After having collected the necessary statements of support from signatories in accordance with Articles 5 and 7, and provided that the Commission has decided that a proposed citizens' initiative is admissible in accordance with **Article 8**, the organiser shall submit the statements of support, in paper or in electronic form, to the relevant competent authorities provided for in Article 14 for verification and certification. For this purpose the organiser shall use the form set out in Annex VI.

*Amendment*

1. After having collected the necessary statements of support from signatories in accordance with Articles 5 and 7, and provided that the Commission has decided that a proposed citizens' initiative is admissible in accordance with **Article 4**, the organiser shall submit the statements of support, in paper or in electronic form, to the relevant competent authorities provided for in Article 14 for verification and certification. For this purpose the organiser shall use the form set out in Annex VI.

Or.en

**Amendment 113**

**Mariya Nedelcheva, Anna Maria Corazza Bildt**

**Proposal for a regulation**

**Article 9 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

The organiser shall submit statements of

*Amendment*

The organiser shall submit statements of

support to the Member State *that issued the identification document indicated therein.*

support to the Member State *where the signatories have their permanent residence.*

*A signatory who is not a national of the Member State in which he or she permanently resides may choose to be considered either as coming either from the Member State in which he or she permanently resides or from the Member State of which he or she is a national.*

*In cases where signatories have their permanent residence in a third country, the organiser shall submit statements of support to the Member State of which they are nationals.*

Or.en

#### *Justification*

*The permanent residence should be indicated instead of the identity documents. This would enable to avoid potential signatories to be dissuaded from signing. The permanent residence should be the criterion to decide where the signatures come from. EU citizens living in another Member State than the one from which they are nationals or living outside of the EU territory should not be excluded from the possibility of participating in a citizens' initiative. The criterion that should therefore be retained to determine where the signature comes from should be their nationality.*

#### **Amendment 114** **Véronique Mathieu**

#### **Proposal for a regulation** **Article 9 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 2**

##### *Text proposed by the Commission*

The organiser shall submit statements of support to the Member State *that issued the identification document indicated therein.*

##### *Amendment*

The organiser shall submit statements of support to the Member State *in which the signatories have their permanent place of residence.*

Or.fr

**Amendment 115**  
**Judith Sargentini on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 9 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

The organiser shall submit statements of support to the Member State *that issued* the *identification document indicated therein*.

*Amendment*

The organiser shall submit statements of support to the Member State *where* the *signatories have their permanent residence*.

Or.en

**Amendment 116**  
**Kinga Gál**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 9 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

The organiser shall submit statements of support to the Member State that issued the identification document indicated therein.

*Amendment*

The organiser shall submit statements of support to the Member State that issued the identification document *or a document indicating the citizenship* indicated therein.

Or.en

*Justification*

*Some EU Member States do not issue identity cards for their citizens and the legislation differs from country to country, therefore, any documents certifying the citizenship recognized by the national legislation should be accepted as a proof of citizenship.*

**Amendment 117**  
**Cornelis de Jong, Rui Tavares, Marie-Christine Vergiat**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 9 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 2 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**2a. The organiser shall also submit to the competent authorities a fully detailed declaration of any financial support it may have received or enjoyed from any interest group or representatives of interest groups, throughout the entire duration of the collection of statements of support, so as to ensure full transparency throughout the entire life cycle of the citizen's initiative.**

Or.en

### **Amendment 118**

**Cornelis de Jong, Rui Tavares**

#### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Article 9 – paragraph 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

2. The competent authorities shall, within a period that shall not exceed three months, verify the statements of support provided on the basis of **appropriate** checks, and deliver to the organiser a certificate in accordance with the model set out in Annex VII, certifying the number of valid statements of support for that Member State.

2. The competent authorities shall, within a period that shall not exceed three months, verify the statements of support provided on the basis of **sample** checks, and deliver to the organiser a certificate in accordance with the model set out in Annex VII, certifying the number of valid statements of support for that Member State. **The percentage of invalid signatures in the sample will be deducted from the overall number of statements of support. A certificate will only be issued if the remaining number of statements of support exceeds one million.**

Or.en

#### *Justification*

*This article aims to make verification faster. If for example an ECI raises 1.5 million signatories the verifying authority may randomly check 5000 samples taken from the whole. If it results from those 5000 that 500 (or 10%) are false, incomplete or non-verifiable, then it may be extrapolated onto the entire collection of signatures, assuming that 10% of the 1.5*

million signatories are false. Moreover, such a sample-check correction system also counters the argument put forth by the Commission that the ID number is needed for a thorough check of validity of the signatories.

#### **Amendment 119**

**Georgios Papanikolaou, Anna Maria Corazza Bildt**

#### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Article 11 – paragraph 1 – point a**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

a. publish the citizens' initiative without delay on its website;

*Amendment*

a. publish the citizens' initiative without delay on its website, ***in all the official languages of the Union;***

Or.en

*Justification*

*All the EU citizens should be able to understand the content of the proposed citizens' initiative in order to support it, after its approval by the European Commission. This could be achieved only if the initiatives are translated to all the official languages of the European Union, upon publication on the website of the European Commission.*

#### **Amendment 120**

**Cecilia Wikström, Kinga Göncz**

#### **Proposal for a regulation**

#### **Article 11 – paragraph 1 – point b**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

b. examine the citizens' initiative and, within 4 months, set out in a communication its conclusions on the initiative, the ***action it intends*** to take, ***if any, and its reasons for doing so.***

*Amendment*

b. examine the citizens' initiative and, within 4 months, set out in a communication its conclusions on the initiative, ***as well as the appropriate proposal on the matter where citizens have indicated that a legal act is required. Should the Commission decide to take some alternative action, or not to take any action, it shall state its reasons for its decision in a communication.***

Or.en

*Justification*

*In order to create a stronger duty for the Commission to give a follow up to citizens' initiatives.*

**Amendment 121**

**Cornelis de Jong, Rui Tavares**

**Proposal for a regulation**

**Article 11 – paragraph 1 – point b**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

b. examine the citizens' initiative and, within 4 months, set out in a communication its conclusions on the initiative, the action it intends to take, if any, and its reasons for doing so.

*Amendment*

b. ***favourably*** examine the citizens' initiative and, within 4 months, set out in a communication its conclusions on the initiative, the action it intends to take, if any, and its reasons for doing so.

Or.en

**Amendment 122**

**Anna Maria Corazza Bildt, Salvatore Iacolino, Mariya Nedelcheva**

**Proposal for a regulation**

**Article 11 – paragraph 1 – point b**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

b. examine the citizens' initiative and, within ***4 months***, set out in a communication its conclusions on the initiative, the action it intends to take, if any, and its reasons for doing so.

*Amendment*

b. examine the citizens' initiative and, within ***three months***, set out in a communication its conclusions on the initiative, the action it intends to take, if any, and its reasons for doing so.

Or.en

*Justification*

*To ensure and maintain high levels of citizen participation, it is crucial to count on a quick procedure. It is therefore considered that the European Commission shall be able to fully formulate its own conclusions about the initiative and the actions it intends to undertake within a period of three months.*

**Amendment 123**

**Anna Hedh**

**Proposal for a regulation**

**Article 11 – paragraph 1 – point b**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

b. examine the citizens' initiative and, within 4 months, set out in a communication its conclusions on the initiative, the action it intends to take, if any, and its reasons for doing so.

*Amendment*

b. examine the citizens' initiative and, within 4 months, set out in a communication its conclusions on the initiative, the action it intends to take, if any, and its reasons for doing so. ***If the Commission decides not to submit a proposal for an initiative, the organiser shall be able to appeal against that decision before the Court of Justice of the European Union.***

Or.sv

**Amendment 124**

**Cecilia Wikström, Kinga Göncz**

**Proposal for a regulation**

**Article 11 – paragraph 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

2. The communication referred to in paragraph 1(b) shall be notified to the organiser of the citizens' initiative as well as to the European Parliament and the Council and shall be made public.

*Amendment*

2. The ***list of citizens' initiatives tabled, as well as the*** communication referred to in paragraph 1(b), shall be notified to the organiser of the citizens' initiative as well as to the European Parliament and the Council and shall be made public.

Or.en

*Justification*

*In order to create a stronger duty for the Commission to give a follow up to citizens' initiatives.*



**Amendment 125**  
**Cecilia Wikström, Kinga Gönz**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 11 – paragraph 2 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**2a. The Commission shall deliver a public annual report to the European Parliament and the Council on the implementation of citizens' initiatives , indicating inter alia the number of initiatives submitted, their admissibility and the follow-up given by the Commission to each initiative.**

Or.en

*Justification*

*In order to create a stronger duty for the Commission to give a follow up to citizens' initiatives.*

**Amendment 126**  
**Anna Maria Corazza Bildt, Salvatore Iacolino, Georgios Papanikolaou**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Article 11 – paragraph 2 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**2a. With regard to citizens' initiatives in respect of which one million statements of support have been collected, the European Parliament can at any time call on the Commission to explain the actions it intends to take or, as the case may be, the decision not to take any action, and the reasons for doing so. In exercising its powers the European Parliament can at any time hold hearings of the organisers or adopt a resolution. The organisers may also present a petition to the European Parliament on the subject, if the criteria for doing so are met.**

*Justification*

*In order to respond to citizens' expectation and avoid frustration, it is important that the European Parliament offers other options and take a debate to clarify the Commission decision.*

**Amendment 127****Marie-Christine Vergiat, Rui Tavares****Proposal for a regulation****Article 15***Text proposed by the Commission*

The Commission may adopt, by means of delegated acts in accordance with Articles 16, 17 and 18, amendments to the Annexes of this Regulation.

*Amendment*

The Commission may adopt, by means of delegated acts in accordance with Articles 16, 17 and 18, amendments to *all* the Annexes to this Regulation ***apart from Annexes II and III.***

*Justification*

*There are provisions in these two annexes that need to be examined by Parliament. These two annexes must be excluded therefore from the scope of delegated acts and comitology.*

**Amendment 128****Marie-Christine Vergiat, Rui Tavares****Proposal for a regulation****Article 18 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 2***Text proposed by the Commission*

The delegated act ***may*** be published in the Official Journal of the European Union and enter into force before the expiry of that period if the European Parliament and the Council have both informed the Commission of their intention not to raise objections.

*Amendment*

The delegated act ***shall*** be published in the Official Journal of the European Union and enter into force before the expiry of that period if the European Parliament and the Council have both informed the Commission of their intention not to raise objections.

**Amendment 129**

**Csaba Sógor**

**Proposal for a regulation**

**Article 19 – paragraph 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

1. For the purpose of the implementation of Article 6(5), the Commission shall be assisted by a committee.

*Amendment*

1. For the purpose of the implementation of Article 6(5), the Commission shall be assisted by a committee ***comprising 27 independent experts representing the Member States. Nine members shall constitute a decision-making quorum, but experts from the countries from which the initiative originates may not participate in the decision-making process.***

Or.hu

**Amendment 130**

**Marie-Christine Vergiat, Rui Tavares**

**Proposal for a regulation**

**Article 20 – paragraph 2**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

The Commission shall inform the other Member States thereof.

*Amendment*

The Commission shall inform the other Member States ***and the European Parliament*** thereof.

Or.fr

**Amendment 131**

**Anna Maria Corazza Bildt, Mariya Nedelcheva, Salvatore Iacolino**

**Proposal for a regulation**

**Article 21**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

***Five years*** after the entry into force of this

*Amendment*

***Two years*** after the entry into force of this

Regulation, the Commission shall present a report to the European Parliament and the Council on the implementation of this Regulation.

Regulation, the Commission shall present a report to the European Parliament and the Council on the implementation of this Regulation.

Or.en

**Amendment 132**  
**Marie-Christine Vergiat, Rui Tavares**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Annex II – point 4**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**4. The legal base of the Treaties which would allow the Commission to act;**

**deleted**

Or.fr

*Justification*

*Asking the organisers to furnish the legal basis of the Treaties is not being realistic. On the contrary, it is the Commission's job to examine an initiative and its compatibility with the Treaties and then to inform the organisers as to its admissibility, giving them precise reasons for its decision and publishing it.*

**Amendment 133**  
**Anna Maria Corazza Bildt, Salvatore Iacolino**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Annex II – point 4**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

4. The **legal base** of the Treaties which would allow the Commission to act;

4. The **provisions** of the Treaties which would allow the Commission to act;

Or.en

**Amendment 134**  
**Anna Maria Corazza Bildt**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Annex II – point 5**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

5. The full name, postal address and e-mail address of the organiser *or, in the case of a legal entity or organisation, its legal representative;*

*Amendment*

5. The full name, postal address and e-mail address of the organiser;

Or.en

**Amendment 135**  
**Véronique Mathieu**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Annex II – point 5**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

5. The full name, postal address and e-mail address of the organiser *or, in the case of a legal entity or organisation, its legal representative;*

*Amendment*

5. The full name, postal address and e-mail address of the organiser;

Or.fr

**Amendment 136**  
**Anna Maria Corazza Bildt**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Annex III – Box 2 – point 5 a (new)**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

***5a. Financial and political support received in respect of the proposed citizens initiative:***

Or.en

**Amendment 137**  
**Cornelis de Jong**

**Proposal for a Regulation**  
**Annex III – Box 3**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

Box 3: (to be completed by signatory)

Box 3: (to be completed by signatory)

1. Name of signatory:  
First name\*:.....Family name\*:
2. Address:  
Street:  
Postcode: City\*:  
Country\*:
3. E-mail address:
4. Date and place of birth\*:  
***Date of birth: Place and country:***
5. Nationality\*:
- 6. Personal identification number\*:  
Type of identification number/identity document:  
National identity card: Passport: Social security:  
Member State, which issued the identification number/identity document\*:***
7. I hereby certify that the information provided in this form is correct and that I have only supported this proposed citizens' initiative once\*.  
Date and signature of the signatory\* ♦:  
.....

1. Name of signatory:  
First name\*:.....Family name\*:
2. Address:  
Street:  
Postcode: City\*:  
Country\*
3. E-mail address ***or telephone number:***
4. Date and place of birth\*:
5. Nationality\*:
- 6. I hereby certify that the information provided in this form is correct and that I have only supported this proposed citizens' initiative once\*.  
Date and signature of the signatory\* ♦:  
.....***

Or. en

**Amendment 138**  
**Kinga Gál**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Annex III – Box 3**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

Box 3: (to be completed by signatory)

Box 3: (to be completed by signatory)

***1. Citizenship\*:***

1. Name of signatory:  
First name\*.....Family name\*:  
2. Address:  
Street:  
Postcode: City\*:  
Country\*:  
3. E-mail address:  
4. Date and place of birth\*:  
Date of birth: Place and country:  
5. **Nationality\***:  
6. Personal identification number\*:  
Type of identification number/identity document\*:  
National identity card: Passport: Social security:  
Member State, which issued the identification number/identity document\*:  
7. I hereby certify that the information provided in this form is correct and that I have only supported this proposed citizens' initiative once\*.  
Date and signature of the signatory\* ♦:  
.....

2. Name of signatory:  
First name\*.....Family name\*:  
3. Address:  
Street:  
Postcode: City\*:  
Country\*:  
4. E-mail address:  
5. Date and place of birth\*:  
Date of birth: Place and country:  
6. Personal identification number:  
Type of identification number/identity document\*:  
National identity card: Passport: Social security:  
Member State, which issued the identification number/identity document\*:  
7. I hereby certify that the information provided in this form is correct and that I have only supported this proposed citizens' initiative once\*.  
Date and signature of the signatory\* ♦:  
.....

Or. en

### *Justification*

*Citizenship refers to the legal status, which means that an individual has been registered with the government in some country, while using the term nationality can lead to confusions.*

**Amendment 139**  
**Anna Maria Corazza Bildt**

**Proposal for a regulation**

**Annex III – Box 3 – point 6**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**6. Personal identification number\*:**  
**Type of identification number/identity document\*:**  
**National identity card: Passport: Social security:**  
**Member State, which issued the identification number/identity document\*:**

*deleted*

*Justification*

*For concerns on data protection and in order to encourage citizens to participate, we should reduce the information on the statement of support form.*

Or.en

**Amendment 140**

**Philip Claeys**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Annex III – box 3 – point 6**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

**6. Personal identification number\*:** *deleted*

*Type of identification number/identity document\*:*

*National identity card: Passport:*

*Social security:*

*Member State, which issued the identification number/identity document\*:*

*Justification*

*The requirement that signatories must give their personal identification number will deter people from taking part in a citizens' initiative and thus runs counter to the spirit of the regulation.*

Or. nl

**Amendment 141**

**Véronique Mathieu**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Annex VI – point 1**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

*Amendment*

1. Full name, postal address and e-mail address of the organiser *or, in the case of a legal entity or organisation, its legal representative\*:*

1. Full name, postal address and e-mail address of the organiser.

Or.fr



**Amendment 142**  
**Véronique Mathieu**

**Proposal for a regulation**  
**Annex VIII – point 6**

*Text proposed by the Commission*

6. Full name, postal address and e-mail address of the organiser ***or, in the case of a legal entity or organisation, its legal representative.***

*Amendment*

6. Full name, postal address and e-mail address of the organiser.

Or.fr