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Committee on Petitions

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DRAFT OPINION

of the Committee on Petitions

for the Committee on Constitutional Affairs

on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council
on the citizens' initiative
(COM(2010)0119 – C7-0089/2010 – 2010/0074(COD))

Rapporteurs(*): Gerald Häfner and Diana Wallis

(*) Procedure with associated committees – Rule 50 of the Rules of Procedure

PA_Legam

SHORT JUSTIFICATION

At the end of March 2010 the European Commission officially tabled the text of the Draft Regulation which has formed the basis for the many debates, hearings and discussions which have taken place ever since. Such debates have not only been conducted in the Committees responsible - notably of course AFCO and PETI, but also during a joint AFCO-PETI meeting with National Parliaments. Almost all of the political groups in Parliament have also organised their own hearings on the subject and it is probably correct to say that never has there been such widespread and open debate about a Draft Regulation in the history of the Parliament's activities.

Given the subject however, - the right of European citizens to impact directly on the development European policies and legislative measures, much is at stake for all the institutions involved. Parliament recognised this when it agreed that, on an exceptional basis, the Petitions Committee would be involved in a legislative process, under the terms of Article 50 of the Rules of Procedure, because of its knowledge and expertise in relation to the rights of citizens as expressed through the right of petition with which the 'Citizens' initiative' has much in common. This is, in fact, the first time the Petitions Committee has been involved in legislative activity of any sort.

Parliament also considered it to be desirable to allow the Committees responsible to appoint co-rapporteurs, rather than a single rapporteur, in order to ensure the broadest base for an agreement on the issue. Accordingly AFCO, and then PETI, appointed their co-rapporteurs and since then all four have met on a large number of occasions (including meetings with other committee rapporteurs for opinion) in order to deliver a single well-motivated document which represents a more simplified, more user-friendly, more practical and more transparent regulation, better tuned to the contemporary environment within which European politics is evolving.

If the Lisbon Treaty is to mean anything to European citizens then it is on the basis of the functioning of the *Citizens' Initiative* that it will be judged.

As a result of extensive consultation and debate, a number of important changes have been introduced compared to the Commission's draft and the known position of Council. These concern above all the modifications to the registration procedure (itself related to the conditions and the criteria for admissibility) and the introduction of a most significant change which will give the '*right to sign*' to all European citizens of the age of 16 and above. This is considered to be essential and it will inevitably provide a means to generate better and more informed debates about Europe and its future amongst the youth of today in their schools and colleges, and also provide them as well with a potentially important additional stake in tomorrow's policies. A third element is the affirmation that all successful initiatives should be entitled to be heard by the institutions at a public hearing, where the Petitions Committee in particular, intends to play a major role. Lastly, it is considered most important by the co-rapporteurs, that the excessive attention placed by the Commission and the Member States on identity verification creates too many barriers for effective participation and a more simplified procedure is proposed which concentrates on ensuring that safeguards are introduced to prevent individuals from signing more than once and otherwise ensure that the credibility of the proposal is maintained.

The Citizens Initiative, under the terms of the Treaty of Lisbon, is addressed by citizens to the Commission which, as a result, must make some important administrative changes to accommodate their new responsibility.

The draft changes proposed by the co-rapporteurs would provide citizens with the same rights of initiative as the Parliament which already enjoys a right of initiative under the terms of Article 225 of the Lisbon Treaty and the Interinstitutional Framework Agreement, paragraph 16.

It must be understood that the Citizens' Initiative gives the right to Europe's citizens to make a legislative proposal and it is distinct from the right of petition which has been enshrined in all EU Treaties since Maastricht. In Article 227 of the Lisbon Treaty, it states "*Any citizen of the Union, and any natural or legal person residing or having its recognised office in a Member State, shall have the right to address, individually, or in association with other citizens or persons, a petition to the European Parliament on a matter which comes within the Union's fields of activity and which affects him, her or it directly.*"

A petition is thus addressed by citizens or residents to the European Parliament. On that basis the Committee responsible considers regularly the issues raised by the citizens and residents of the Union and they are able to participate in the debates when their petition is discussed - often on subjects related to the problems with the application of European law, or issues related to their rights recognised under the Treaty.

The *Citizens' Initiative* therefore presents an important and additional opportunity for all European citizens to have their voices heard.

There is therefore a very broad agreement between the co-rapporteurs of PETI with the colleagues from AFCO. Only on four specific points of detail are their outstanding divergences and it is to be hoped that these can be overcome in the coming weeks following the votes in both committees so that the Parliament will be able to approach negotiations with Council on a very firm and united mandate.

Diana Wallis & Gerald Häfner. October 22nd 2010.

AMENDMENTS

The Committee on Petitions calls on the Committee on Constitutional Affairs, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following amendments in its report:

Amendment 1

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 1

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(1) The Treaty on European Union reinforces the citizenship of the Union and

(1) The Treaty on European Union reinforces the citizenship of the Union and

enhances further the democratic functioning of the Union by providing inter alia that every citizen shall have the right to participate in the democratic life of the Union ***and that not less than one million citizens who are nationals of a significant number of Member States may take the initiative of inviting the European 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.***

enhances further the democratic functioning of the Union by providing inter alia that every citizen shall have the right to participate in the democratic life of the Union ***by way of a European citizens' initiative. That procedure affords citizens the possibility of directly approaching the Commission, conferring on them a right of initiative similar to that exercised by the European Parliament and the Council.***

Or. en

Justification

It is superfluous to repeat Treaty provisions in a recital. The necessary references to the Treaties are already made in the citations. In the last sentence the place of the initiative in the overall framework of the European construction is referred to.

Amendment 2

Proposal for a regulation Recital 2

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(2) The Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union provides that the European Parliament and the Council should adopt the provisions for the procedures and conditions required for such a citizens' initiative.

deleted

Or. en

Justification

It is useless to repeat the Treaty provision in a recital. The legal base is already referred to in the first citation of the Regulation.

Amendment 3

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, **and should strike a judicious balance between rights and obligations.**

Or. en

Justification

In the rapporteurs' view it is important that rights provided by the Regulation should go hand in hand with respective obligations. This new tool of participatory democracy could only be successfully implemented in practice if equilibrium is found between rights and obligations.

Amendment 4

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 *a* minimum number of Member States from which citizens must come. **This threshold should** ensure that a citizens' initiative is representative of a Union interest **but the requirements should not be too cumbersome. It therefore** should be set at **one fifth of the** Member States.

Or. en

Justification

A lower threshold should be found where the Union interest can still be represented but the requirements are not too cumbersome.

Amendment 5

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. ***In order to foster the participation of younger citizens in the democratic life of the Union, this*** should be set at the age of ***16.***

Or. en

Justification

A lower age limit is proposed in order to encourage younger citizens' participation in the democratic life of the Union. The age limit of 16 years in case of European elections already exists in a certain Member State.

Amendment 6

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 7

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 within the meaning of 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 that initiative and of all possible judicial and extrajudicial remedies available to them**. **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.

Or. en

Justification

The amendment justifies the abolition of the "admissibility check": the Commission should only verify if a certain initiative is a citizens' initiative pursuant to the Regulation. If it is so, the initiative should be registered and the organisers shouldn't be prevented from collecting signatures. The second part addresses some issues which emerge due to the abolition of the "admissibility check". 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. It can not be understood as a formal decision on competence issues.

Amendment 8

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 9

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

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

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

Or. en

Justification

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 9

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 10

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(10) *It* is appropriate to provide for statements of support to be collected in paper form ***as well as online.*** Online

(10) *In order to put modern technology to good use as a tool of participatory democracy, it* is appropriate to provide for

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.

statements of support to be collected **online as well as** in paper form. 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

Justification

This amendment is aimed at giving the reasons for the provisions and justifies the use of delegated acts.

Amendment 10

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

Justification

It is considered more suitable that the time-period be extended to 18 months in order to ensure adequate time for the collection of signatures and statements of support in electronic

and manual format.

Amendment 11

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

Justification

The admissibility check is abolished.

Amendment 12

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 14

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(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. *deleted*

Or. en

Justification

The admissibility check is abolished.

Amendment 13

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 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.

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 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

Justification

It should be made clear that Member States check the signatures even if it is a European citizens' initiative, because there is no competent Union electoral authority that could do that exercise.

Amendment 14

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 16

Text proposed by the Commission

(16) Organisers should ensure that all the relevant conditions set out in this Regulation are met prior to submitting a

Amendment

deleted

Justification

It is superfluous to mention in a recital that the obligations set out by a Regulation should be met in order to reach the desired legal effect.

Amendment 15

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 17

Text proposed by the Commission

(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.***

Amendment

(17) The Commission should examine a citizens' initiative and ***respond to it in a clear, comprehensible and detailed manner and within a time frame corresponding to its handling of legislative initiatives of the European Parliament under Article 225 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. Thus, as a first step, the Commission should after three months inform the organisers of a successful initiative of how it intends to act on the initiative. As a second step, citizens should have the assurance that a successful citizens' initiative will be the subject of an official public hearing at European Union level. The Commission, as the addressee of an initiative, should ensure that such a hearing takes place and that it will be represented at an appropriate level. The European Parliament, through its committee responsible, should always be invited to participate in the organising of such hearings.***

As a third step, the Commission should come forward with its final response to the initiative after one year, either by proposing legislation accordingly or by explaining in a detailed manner its reasons for not acting on the initiative. The Commission should also give a

thorough explanation in the event that the legislative proposal diverges significantly from the citizens' initiative.

Or. en

Justification

The Commissions' reaction to a move by European citizens should be both legally and politically justified. Furthermore, this should be demonstrated by a reasoning showing that the citizens' voice is heard and the possible action to be taken is seriously and thoroughly thought-out.

Amendment 16

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 18

Text proposed by the Commission

(18) Directive 95/46/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 October 1995 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data is fully applicable to the processing of personal data carried out in application of this Regulation. In this respect, it is appropriate to clarify that the **organiser** of a citizens' initiative and the competent authorities of the Member States are the data controllers within the meaning of Directive 95/46/EC and to specify the maximum period within which the personal data collected for the purposes of a citizens' initiative may be retained. In their capacity as data controllers, organisers need to take all the appropriate measures to comply with the obligations imposed by Directive 95/46/EC, in particular those relating to the lawfulness of the processing, the security of the processing activities and the provision of information and the rights of data *subject* to access to *his/her* personal data as well as the correction and erasure of *his/her* personal data.

Amendment

(18) Directive 95/46/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 October 1995 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data is fully applicable to the processing of personal data carried out in application of this Regulation. In this respect, **for the sake of legal certainty**, it is appropriate to clarify that the **organisers** of a citizens' initiative and the competent authorities of the Member States are the data controllers within the meaning of Directive 95/46/EC and to specify the maximum period within which the personal data collected for the purposes of a citizens' initiative may be retained. In their capacity as data controllers, organisers need to take all the appropriate measures to comply with the obligations imposed by Directive 95/46/EC, in particular those relating to the lawfulness of the processing, the security of the processing activities and the provision of information and the rights of data *subjects* to **have** access to *their* personal data as well as **to procure** the correction and erasure of *their* personal

data.

Or. en

Justification

Amendment aimed to give reason for the enacting term. Linguistic changes in order to use gender neutral language.

Amendment 17

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 21

Text proposed by the Commission

(21) *The* Commission should be empowered to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 290 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union **for the purpose of amending the Annexes to this Regulation.**

Amendment

(21) **With a view to the possible need in the future to amend or supplement certain non-essential elements in the provisions of this Regulation or its annexes, the** Commission should be empowered to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 290 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.

Or. en

Justification

Amendment that reflects the change in the enacting terms and justifies the use of delegated acts.

Amendment 18

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 22

Text proposed by the Commission

(22) **The measures necessary for the implementation of the Regulation should be adopted in accordance with Council Decision 1999/468/EC of 28 June 1999 laying down the procedures for the exercise of implementing powers**

Amendment

deleted

conferred on the Commission.

Or. en

Justification

Technical specifications should be adopted by delegated acts; therefore, the provision on implementing powers becomes obsolete.

Amendment 19

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 23

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(23) The Commission should report on the implementation of this Regulation five years after its entry into force.

deleted

Or. en

Justification

It is superfluous to simply repeat a part of the enacting terms in a recital.

Amendment 20

Proposal for a regulation

Article 2 – paragraph 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;

Justification

In order to facilitate the launching of an initiative, to allow for a simpler and less cumbersome procedure, it is appropriate to set a lower threshold.

Amendment 21**Proposal for a regulation****Article 2 – paragraph 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.

(This amendment, namely to change "organiser" to "organisers", applies throughout the text. Adopting it will necessitate corresponding changes throughout.)

Justification

A genuine citizens' initiative should, per definitionem, 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 22**Proposal for a regulation****Article 3 – title***Text proposed by the Commission*

Requirements for *the organiser* and for signatories

Amendment

Requirements for *organisers, for the citizens' committee* and for signatories

Justification

A citizens' initiative should be launched by a citizens' committee made up of natural persons who are citizens of the Union. Therefore this title has to be adjusted accordingly.

Amendment 23

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

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.*

1. *Organisers shall be citizens of the Union and be of the age to be entitled to vote in the European elections.*

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.

Or. en

Justification

The use of plural is justified by Article 3 paragraph 1a (new). The deletion is necessary because organisers should only be natural persons.

Amendment 24

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 1 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

1a. Organisers shall form a citizens' committee of at least seven persons who are residents of at least seven Member States.

The organisers shall designate one

representative and one substitute, who shall perform a liaison function between the citizens' committee and the institutions of the European Union throughout the procedure and who 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 25

Proposal for a regulation Article 3 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

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.***

Amendment

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

Justification

In order to foster the participation of young European citizens in shaping the Union's future and to encourage wider participation in the Union's democratic life, it is appropriate to set a lower age limit than the age to be entitled to vote in most Member States and than the age limit for the members of a citizens' committee.

Amendment 26

Proposal for a regulation Article 4 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

1. Prior to initiating the collection of statements of support from signatories for a proposed citizens' initiative, the **organiser** shall be required to register it with the Commission, providing the information set out in Annex II, in particular on the subject-matter and objectives **as well as on the sources of funding and support for** the proposed citizens' initiative.

This information shall be provided in one **of the** official languages of the Union, in an online register made available for that purpose by the Commission (hereafter "the register").

Amendment

1. Prior to initiating the collection of statements of support from signatories for a proposed citizens' initiative, the **organisers** shall be required to register it with the Commission, providing the information set out in Annex II, in particular on the subject-matter and objectives **of** the proposed citizens' initiative.

The organisers shall provide, for the register defined in the third subparagraph and where appropriate on their website, regularly updated information on the sources of support and funding for the initiative.

This information shall be provided in one **or more** official languages of the Union, in an online register made available for that purpose by the Commission (hereafter "the register"). ***Information in an official language other the language(s) in which it was originally provided may be provided subsequently for entry in the register.***

The translation of the initiative into other official languages of the Union shall be the responsibility of the organisers.

Or. en

Justification

In practice the initiative should be translated because the citizens' committee is made up of citizens coming from different countries, and the signatures are to be collected in at least one fifth of the Member States.

Amendment 27

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. **If it is established that the proposed initiative qualifies as a citizens' initiative pursuant to this Regulation**, the Commission shall register **it** under a unique registration number and send a confirmation to the **organisers**.

Or. en

Justification

The registration should only be refused in cases when the move in question is not a citizens' initiative. Those cases are defined by the Treaties and this regulation.

Amendment 28

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 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) there are no manifest, significant inconsistencies between the linguistic versions of the title, subject-matter and objectives of the proposed initiative;

(c) the initiative does not manifestly fall outside the scope of the Commission's power 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.

Or. en

Justification

The Commission proposal separates the question of registration and admissibility. In the rapporteurs' view if a certain move by citizens fulfils all the criteria set out by the treaty and the regulation for a citizens' initiative, the organisers' right to collect signatures can not be denied. In that case there is no need to further examine "admissibility". On the other hand, if it doesn't fulfil those criteria, then it is not a citizens' initiative but something else (petition, letter, complaint, etc.) and in that case, for the sake of legal certainty, it should be made clear from the beginning that collecting signatures is a waste of time. The Regulation therefore should contain the criteria laid down in this amendment in order to make it possible to assess right in the beginning whether a citizens' initiative is on the table or not. If any of the above criteria is not fulfilled, the Commission can automatically deny registration, because the proposed move is not a citizens' initiative; thus the Commission wouldn't formally give a decision on competence issues: it would simply decide on an administrative level whether it is a citizens' initiative or not. The Commission should have a reasonable deadline for the decision on the registration of an initiative, because some serious initiatives could require a thorough evaluation of the issue.

Amendment 29

Proposal for a regulation

Article 4 – paragraph 3 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

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

The Commission shall take any measures it considers necessary to assure organisers that its decision on the registration fully respects the letter and the spirit of the Treaties, without prejudice to its subsequent decision on the substance of the matter.

Where it refuses to register an initiative, the Commission shall inform the organisers of the reasons for such refusal and of all possible judicial and

extrajudicial remedies available to them.

Or. en

Justification

The registration of an initiative should only be refused if it is not a citizens' initiative pursuant to this Regulation or if this can not be assessed, because there are serious contradictions in the translations prepared by the organisers.

The Commission should decide on the registration on strict legal grounds; however, that decision should not bind its hands as to its ulterior decision on the substance of the matter.

As a part of good administration, organisers should have feedback from the Commission which would allow them to adjust the initiative in order to be appropriate for registration. The organisers should also have information on the modalities on how to challenge the Commission's decision if they deem it necessary.

Amendment 30

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

Justification

See the other justifications for amendments to Article 4.

Amendment 31

Proposal for a regulation

Article 4 – paragraph 4 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

4a. At any time before the submission of statements of support in accordance with Article 9, the organisers may withdraw a

registered initiative. If an initiative is withdrawn, an indication to that effect shall be entered in the register.

Or. en

Justification

The citizens' committee should remain free to withdraw an initiative when it considers that it is useless to continue the collection of signatures or it simply does not intend to continue its activity for any reasons. However, this opportunity should not be granted after the submission of the statements of support, because Member States spend taxpayers' money on verifying signatures.

Amendment 32

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

Only **registered language versions of** statements of support forms which comply with the model set out in annex III may be used for this purpose. The **organisers** 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.

Or. en

Justification

Pursuant to Annex III signatories should provide the following information: name, address of permanent residence, date and place of birth, nationality, date of signature. Only registered language versions of the form should be used for collecting signatures, because otherwise, in case of an incorrect translation, it could not be assured that the signatures are collected for the same initiative.

Amendment 33

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**.

If that period lapses without the necessary statements of support being submitted, an indication to that effect shall be entered in the register.

Or. en

Justification

It is considered more suitable that the time-period be extended to 18 months in order to ensure adequate time for the collection of signatures and statements of support in electronic and manual format.

The time limit for the collection of signatures shall be respected. If the necessary signatures are not collected within the time limit, the initiative is not successful; therefore it should be deleted from the register which contains only ongoing initiatives.

Amendment 34

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

Amendment

2. Prior to initiating the collection of statements of support from signatories, the **organisers** shall ensure that the online collection system used for that purpose complies with the provisions of paragraph 4. The **organisers** 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 **organisers** shall, in any case, request that certification prior to

submitting statements of support *for verification in accordance with Article 9.*

starting the collection of statements of support.

The organiser shall make a copy of the certificate issued in that regard publicly available on the website used for the online collection system.

Within six months following the entry into force of this Regulation, the Commission shall make available an open-source software incorporating some of the technical and security features necessary for compliance with the provisions of this Regulation regarding the online collection systems. The software shall be freely made available to organisers.

Or. en

Justification

The online collection of signatures should be facilitated by the Commission by making available an open-source software. It is more appropriate to request the certificate for online collection systems prior, and not after, the collection of signatures. Moreover, this certificate should be made public on the website so that citizens know that they can trust the system.

Amendment 35

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

Justification

The identity of a person is not needed for the purpose of verifying the authenticity of statements of support. It is sufficient to check that the person is eligible to sign and signed only once. The fact that a certain person can sign only once should be verified in the case of online signatures as well.

Amendment 36

Proposal for a regulation

Article 6 – paragraph 4 - point d

Text proposed by the Commission

d. the system can generate **individual** statements of support in a form complying with the model set out in Annex III, in order to allow for the control by the Member States, in accordance with Article 9(2).

Amendment

d. the system can generate statements of support in a form complying with the model set out in Annex III, in order to allow for the control by the Member States, in accordance with Article 9(2).

Or. en

Justification

The online statement of support (see Annex III) could also be in a form of a list.

Amendment 37

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 **six months** following the entry into force of this Regulation, the Commission shall adopt **by means of delegated acts** technical specifications for **online collection systems**.

Or. en

Justification

The technical specifications should be adopted by delegated acts instead of implementing acts. The change in the deadline is due to an alignment between different deadlines applicable after the entry into force.

Amendment 38

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

Justification

In order to facilitate the launching of an initiative, to allow for a simpler and less cumbersome procedure, it is appropriate to set a lower threshold.

Amendment 39

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

Justification

In order to facilitate the launching of an initiative, to allow for a simpler and less cumbersome procedure, it is appropriate to set a lower threshold.

Amendment 40

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**

Amendment

3. Signatories shall be considered as coming from the Member State **where they**

issued the identification document indicated in their statement of support.

have their permanent residence.

Signatories having their permanent residence in a third country shall be considered as coming from the Member State of which they are nationals.

Or. en

Justification

The indication of identity documents should not be required from signatories throughout Europe, because in some countries that could have a dissuasive effect. The address of the permanent residence should however be indicated and that should be the criterion to decide where the signatures come from. In the cases where signatories have their permanent residence in a third country, they should be considered as coming from the Member State of which they are nationals.

Amendment 41

Proposal for a regulation

Article 8

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

Article 8

deleted

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 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

See the justifications for amendments to Article 4.

Amendment 42

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, the **organisers** 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 **organisers** shall use the form set out in Annex VI.

Or. en

Justification

See the justifications for amendments to Article 4.

Amendment 43

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 **organisers** shall submit statements of support to the Member State **where the signatories have their permanent residence or, in the case of signatories having their permanent residence in a third country, to the Member State of which they are nationals**.

Or. en

Justification

The indication of identity documents should not be required from signatories throughout Europe, because in some countries that could have a dissuasive effect. The address of the permanent residence should however be indicated and that should be the criterion to decide where the signatures come from. In case of persons residing in third countries, the criterion of nationality should apply.

Amendment 44

Proposal for a regulation

Article 9 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

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.

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.

For the purpose of verifying statements of support, the competent authorities shall check that the person is eligible to sign and has signed only once. The authentication of signatures shall not be required.

Justification

The identity of a person is not needed for the purpose of verifying the authenticity of statements of support. It is sufficient to check that the person is eligible to sign and signed only once.

Amendment 45

Proposal for a regulation
Article 10 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

After having obtained the certificates provided for in Article 9(2), and provided that all relevant procedures and conditions set out in this Regulation have been complied with, the **organiser** may submit the citizens' initiative to the Commission.

Amendment

After having obtained the certificates provided for in Article 9(2), and provided that all relevant procedures and conditions set out in this Regulation have been complied with, the **organisers** may submit the citizens' initiative to the Commission, **accompanied by information regarding any support and funding received for the initiative.**

The amount of support and funding received from natural persons in excess of which information is to be provided shall be determined by the Commission by means of delegated acts.

Or. en

Justification

The citizens' committee should ensure full transparency as to the funds and support of the initiative. It would not however be realistic and would put too much administrative burden on organisers to give detailed information on every single donation coming from natural persons, regardless of the amount. The Commission should therefore be able to determine the amount by delegated act.

Amendment 46

Proposal for a regulation Article 11 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

1. Where the Commission receives a citizens' initiative in accordance with Article 10 it shall:
- a. publish the citizens' initiative without delay on its website;
 - 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

1. Where the Commission receives a citizens' initiative in accordance with Article 10 it shall:
- a. publish the citizens' initiative without delay on its website;
 - b. examine the citizens' initiative and, within **three months**, set out in a communication its ***initial*** conclusions on the initiative;
 - c. organise a public hearing, if appropriate jointly with the European Parliament, at which the organisers shall have the opportunity to explain in detail the matters raised by the initiative;***
 - d. come forward with a legislative proposal within one year or include the proposal in its next year's Work Programme. If the Commission does not present such a proposal it shall give the organisers as well as the European Parliament and the Council detailed explanations of its reasons for not acting on the initiative.***

Or. en

Justification

The Commission should arrive at legal and political conclusions on the initiative. The communication should contain both types of conclusions. The change in the deadline aims to reflect the achievements of the new framework agreement. See also the justification to recital 17.

Amendment 47

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 communication referred to in paragraph 1(b) shall be notified to the **organisers** as well as to the European Parliament and the Council and shall be made public.

Or. en

Justification

See the justifications for amendments to Article 3.

Amendment 48

Proposal for a regulation Article 12 – paragraph 3

Text proposed by the Commission

The organiser shall destroy all statements of support received for a given citizens' initiative and any copies thereof at the latest **one month after submitting that initiative to the Commission in accordance with Article 10 or 18 months** after the date of registration **of a proposed citizens' initiative, whichever is the earlier.**

Amendment

Unless the proceedings are the subject of litigation, the organiser shall destroy all statements of support received for a given citizens' initiative and any copies thereof at the latest **two months after the publication of the Commission communication referred to in point (b) of Article 11(1). In the event of litigation, they shall be destroyed one month after the conclusion of the litigation. Save where the competent authorities of Member States have not yet concluded their verification of statements of support, they shall also be destroyed if a proposed citizens' initiative has not been submitted to the Commission within 18 months** after the date of its registration.

Or. en

Justification

The regulation should take into account the possibility that these documents could be needed in a possible litigation.

Amendment 49

**Proposal for a regulation
Article 12 – paragraph 4**

Text proposed by the Commission

The competent authority shall destroy all statements of support and copies thereof that it has received for the purpose of carrying out the verification in accordance with Article 9(2), at the latest **one month** after issuing the certificate referred to therein.

Amendment

The competent authority shall destroy all statements of support and copies thereof that it has received for the purpose of carrying out the verification in accordance with Article 9(2), at the latest **two months** after issuing the certificate referred to therein. ***In the event of litigation they shall be destroyed one month after the conclusion of the litigation.***

Or. en

Justification

See the previous justification.

Amendment 50

**Proposal for a regulation
Article 13 – paragraph 1 – introductory wording**

Text proposed by the Commission

Member States shall ensure that organisers resident ***or established*** on their territory shall be liable under their civil or criminal law for infringements of this Regulation and in particular for:

Amendment

Member States shall ensure that organisers resident on their territory shall be liable under their civil or criminal law for infringements of this Regulation and in particular for:

Or. en

Justification

Only natural persons can be organisers.

Amendment 51

Proposal for a regulation

Article 15

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment of the Annexes

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

Delegated acts

The Commission may adopt, by means of delegated acts in accordance with Articles 16, 17 and 18:

- *technical specifications for online collection systems pursuant to Article 6(5);*
- *provisions determining the minimum amount of support and funding in respect of which information is to be provided pursuant to the first paragraph of Article 10;*
- amendments to the Annexes to this Regulation.

Or. en

Justification

The Commission should have the power to adopt delegated acts in all areas listed in this amendment. Therefore the title should also be changed accordingly.

Amendment 52

Proposal for a regulation

Article 18 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

1. The European Parliament and the Council may object to the delegated act within a period of two months from the date of notification. At the initiative of the European Parliament or the Council this period shall be extended by **one month**.

Amendment

1. The European Parliament and the Council may object to the delegated act within a period of two months from the date of notification. At the initiative of the European Parliament or the Council this period shall be extended by **two months**.

Or. en

Justification

In order to be in line with the horizontal approach followed by the EP, the deadline should be longer than proposed by the Commission.

Amendment 53

Proposal for a regulation
Article 19

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

Article 19

deleted

Committee

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

2. Where reference is made to this paragraph, Articles 5 and 7 of Decision 1999/468/EC shall apply, having regard to the provisions of Article 8 thereof.

The period laid down in Article 5(6) of Decision 1999/468/EC shall be set at three months.

Or. en

Justification

Technical specifications for online collection systems should be adopted by delegated acts; therefore, this provision on implementing acts is obsolete.

Amendment 54

Proposal for a regulation
Article 20 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

Article 20a

Assistance

1. The Commission shall draw up and keep up-to-date a comprehensive, user-friendly guide on the citizens' initiative.

2. The Commission shall provide a help desk in order to support organisers and to enter into a dialogue from an early stage of the procedure.

The Commission, upon request, shall inform the organisers of current or intended legislative proposals on matters raised by the initiative and of other registered citizens' initiatives that wholly or partly concern the same matter.

Or. en

Justification

For the sake of the success of this new democratic tool, it is important that citizens are well informed about the procedure to be followed. The Commission should therefore provide a user friendly guide on the initiative and should set up a help desk which would be a natural reference point to organisers if they have questions or if they wish to clarify a certain issue with the EU institution responsible for the registration of the initiative. Especially, the Commission should help the organisers with information on current or intended legislative proposals, in order to avoid wasting energy on a matter that is already taken up by the Commission. The information on other registered initiatives concerning the same matter could enhance the European dimension of initiatives.

Amendment 55

Proposal for a regulation

Article 21

Text proposed by the Commission

Five 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.

Amendment

Three years after the entry into force of this Regulation, **and every three years thereafter**, the Commission shall present a report to the European Parliament and the Council on the implementation of this Regulation, **with special emphasis on online collection systems and the application of transparency requirements concerning the funding of initiatives, together, if appropriate, with a legislative proposal for amendment of this Regulation.**

Or. en

Justification

The first review of the regulation should take place earlier than foreseen by the Commission; there should subsequently be regular revisions in order to evaluate how this important tool of participatory democracy functions. It should in particular analyse the experiences and possible improvements in the areas of online collection systems and transparency requirements. The Commission should, where appropriate, submit a legislative proposal in order to take these experiences into account.

Amendment 56

Proposal for a regulation

Article 22

Text proposed by the Commission

This Regulation shall enter into force on the **twentieth day** following **that of** its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

Amendment

This Regulation shall enter into force on the **first day of the month** following its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.
It shall start to apply six months after its entry into force.

Or. en

Amendment 57

Proposal for a regulation

Annex II

Text proposed by the Commission

Required information for **registering** a proposed citizens' initiative
The following information shall be provided ***in order to register a proposed citizens' initiative on*** the Commission's register:

1. The title of proposed citizens' initiative in no more than 100 characters;
2. The subject-matter, in no more than 200 characters;
3. The description of the objectives of the proposal on which the Commission is invited to act, in no more than 500 characters;

Amendment

Required information for a proposed citizens' initiative
The following information shall be provided ***for*** the Commission's register:

1. The title of *the* proposed citizens' initiative in no more than 100 characters;
2. The subject-matter, in no more than 200 characters;
3. The description of the objectives of the proposal on which the Commission is invited to act, in no more than 500 characters;

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

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;*

7. All sources of *funding and support* for the proposed initiative at the time of registration.

Organisers may provide more detailed information on the subject, objectives and background to the proposed citizens' initiative in an annex. They may also, if they wish, submit a draft legislative text.

4. *The Treaty provision considered relevant by the organisers for the proposed action;*

5. The full name, postal address and e-mail address of the *organisers and the contact persons;*

6. All sources of *support and funding* for the proposed initiative at the time of registration

Organisers may provide more detailed information on the subject, objectives, and background to the proposed citizens' initiative in an annex. They may also, if they wish, submit a draft legislative text.

Or. en

Justification

Changes made necessary by changes to the enacting terms. The title and the heading should be changed because Article 4 amends substantially the nature and procedure of the registration. Thus the title can be misleading, because more elements are required for registration than listed in the annex, e.g. the initiative is not against the values of the Union, etc. Moreover, the grounds for refusing the registration are listed in Article 4. The Annex shouldn't add to those conditions.

Amendment 58

Proposal for a regulation Annex III

Text proposed by the Commission

Statement of support form

Box 1: *(to be pre-completed by the **organiser**)*

1. Commission registration number*:
2. Date of registration*:
3. Web address of the proposed citizens' initiative on the Commission register*:

Box 2: *(to be pre-completed by the **organiser**)*

1. Title of proposed citizens' initiative*: *(maximum 100 characters)*
2. Subject-matter*: *(the subject should be as clear as possible) (maximum 200 character)*
3. Description of the main objectives of the proposed citizens' initiative*: *(maximum 500 characters)*
4. Name and address of **organiser***:
5. Website of the proposed citizens' initiative:

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 ♦:*

**: mandatory fields*

♦: signature not required when form is submitted electronically

Amendment by the Parliament

Statement of support form

Box 1: <i>(to be pre-completed by the organisers)</i> 1. Commission registration number: 2. Date of registration: 3. Web address of the proposed citizens' initiative on the Commission register:
--

Box 2: <i>(to be pre-completed by the organisers)</i> 1. Title of the proposed citizens' initiative: <i>(maximum 100 characters)</i> 2. Subject-matter: <i>(the subject should be as clear as possible) (maximum 200 character)</i> 3. Description of the main objectives of the proposed citizens' initiative*: <i>(maximum 500 characters)</i> 4. Name and address of organisers : 4a. Name and address of the contact persons: 5. Website of the proposed citizens' initiative*:

<i>Box 3: (to be completed by signatories)</i>					
Name	Address of permanent residence	Date and place of birth	Nationality	Date of signature	Signature ♦

Signatories may only support a given proposed citizens' initiative once!

** If any.*

♦: signature not required when form is submitted electronically

Or. en

Justification

Changes made necessary by changes to the enacting terms. The form should contain several rows for the collection of signatures, because that is how signatures are usually collected in practice.

Amendment 59

**Proposal for a regulation
Annex V**

Text proposed by the Commission

Form for the request of a decision on the admissibility of a proposed citizens' initiative

1. ***Title of citizens' initiative*:***
2. ***Commission registration number*:***
3. ***Date of registration*:***
4. ***Number of statements of support received*:***
5. ***Number of signatories per Member States*:***

	<i>BE</i>	<i>BG</i>	<i>CZ</i>	<i>DK</i>	<i>DE</i>	<i>EE</i>	<i>IE</i>	<i>EL</i>	<i>ES</i>	<i>FR</i>	<i>IT</i>	<i>CY</i>	<i>LV</i>	<i>LT</i>	<i>LU</i>
<i>Number of signatories</i>															
	<i>HU</i>	<i>MT</i>	<i>NL</i>	<i>AT</i>	<i>PL</i>	<i>PT</i>	<i>RO</i>	<i>SI</i>	<i>SK</i>	<i>FI</i>	<i>SE</i>	<i>UK</i>	<i>TOTAL</i>		
<i>Number of signatories</i>															

6. ***I hereby declare that the information provided in this form is correct.***

Date and signature of the organiser*:

****: mandatory fields***

Amendment by the Parliament

deleted

Or. en

Justification

Article 8 is deleted.

Amendment 60

Proposal for a regulation Annex VI

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

Form for the submission of statements of support to the Member States' competent authorities

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**:

2. Title of citizens' initiative*:

3. Commission registration number*:

4. Date of registration*:

5. Date of request for a decision on admissibility*:

6. Number of signatories coming from [name of MS]*

7. Annexes*:

(Include all statements of support from signatories having specified a personal identification number issued by the same Member State.

If applicable, include the relevant certificate(s) certifying that the conformity of the online collection system with Regulation xxxx/xxxx)

8. Date and signature of the *organiser**:

*: mandatory fields

Form for the submission of statements of support to the Member States' competent authorities

1. Full name, postal address and e-mail address of the *organisers and the contact persons**:

2. Title of citizens' initiative*:

3. Commission registration number*:

4. Date of registration*:

6. Number of signatories coming from [name of MS]*

7. Annexes*:

(If applicable, include the relevant certificate(s) certifying that the conformity of the online collection system with Regulation xxxx/xxxx)

8. Date and signature of the *organisers**:

*: mandatory fields

Or. en

Justification

Changes made necessary by changes to the enacting terms.

Amendment 61

Proposal for a regulation Annex VIII

Text proposed by the Commission

Form for the submission of a citizens' initiative to the Commission

1. Title of citizens' initiative*:
2. Commission registration number*:
3. Date of registration*:
4. Number of eligible statements of support received*: *(must be over 1 million)*
5. Number of signatories certified by Member States*:

	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	IE	EL	ES	FR	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU
Number of signatories															
	HU	MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	UK	TOTAL		
Number of signatories															

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**.
7. I hereby declare that the information provided in this form is correct.

Date and signature of the **organiser***:

8. Annexes*:
Include all certificates

*: mandatory fields

Form for the submission of a citizens' initiative to the Commission

1. Title of citizens' initiative*:
2. Commission registration number*:
3. Date of registration*:
4. Number of eligible statements of support received*: *(must be over 1 million)*
5. Number of signatories certified by Member States*:

	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	IE	EL	ES	FR	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU
Number of signatories															
	HU	MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	UK	TOTAL		
Number of signatories															

6. Full name, postal address and e-mail address of the ***organisers and the contact persons.***

7. I hereby declare that the information provided in this form is correct.

Date and signature of the ***organisers****:

8. Annexes*:
Include all certificates

*: mandatory fields

Or. en

Justification

Changes made necessary by changes to the enacting terms.