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Committee on Petitions

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AMENDMENTS

62 - 115

Draft opinion
Diana Wallis and Gerald Häfner
(PE450.890v01-00)

Proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the citizens' initiative

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

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United in diversity

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Amendment 62
Bairbre de Brún, Willy Meyer, Helmut Scholz

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 1

Text proposed by the Commission

(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.

Amendment

(1) The Treaty on European Union ***provides*** 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.

Or. en

Amendment 63
Bairbre de Brún, Willy Meyer, Helmut Scholz

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 1 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(1a) Whilst the Treaty on European Union does not explicitly provide for non-EU nationals resident in the Union to participate in citizens' initiatives, neither does it forbid or prevent them from doing so.

Or. en

Amendment 64
Bairbre de Brún, Willy Meyer, Helmut Scholz

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 1 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(1b) The European Council should consider amending the Treaties so as to explicitly provide that non-EU nationals resident in the EU are to entitled participate in citizens' initiatives.

Or. en

Amendment 65
Mariya Nedelcheva, Simon Busuttil, Anna Maria Corazza Bildt, Pascale Gruny, Lena Kolarska-Bobińska, Erminia Mazzoni

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 3

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

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

(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. They should strike a judicious balance between rights and obligations.***

Or. en

Amendment 66

Mariya Nedelcheva, Simon Busuttil, Anna Maria Corazza Bildt, Pascale Gruny, Lena Kolarska-Bobińska, Erminia Mazzoni

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 registration 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 67

Bairbre de Brún, Helmut Scholz

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 4 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(4a) Citizens may be dissuaded from organising a citizens' initiative due to the costs involved. The Commission should

draw up a proposal providing for financial support for citizens' initiatives.

Or. en

Amendment 68
Nikolaos Salavrakos

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 **two** Member States.

Or. en

Justification

Consequence of amendment at article 2, paragraph 1.

Amendment 69
Bairbre de Brún, Willy Meyer, Helmut Scholz

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 **three** Member States.

Or. en

Amendment 70
Bairbre de Brún, Willy Meyer, Helmut Scholz

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 7

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(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.

deleted

Or. en

Amendment 71
Mariya Nedelcheva, Anna Maria Corazza Bildt, Pascale Gruny, Lena Kolarska-Bobińska, Erminia Mazzoni

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 7a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(7a) It is important to involve young people and to encourage them to participate in 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

Amendment 72
Ioannis A. Tsoukalas

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. **Furthermore, the Commission should at least once a year make the list of active citizen's initiatives available through the Official Journal as well as through information campaigns in the media in cooperation with the national parliaments of the Member States. 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 solely 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 publication of the active citizen's initiatives only in the specialized web site does guarantee sufficient visibility for those portions of the European population that are probably mostly in need of it (such as illiterate and technologically illiterate people). Publishing the active initiatives will further strengthen the European wide perception of this significant democratic tool

Amendment 73

Mariya Nedelcheva, Simon Busuttil, Anna Maria Corazza Bildt, Pascale Gruny, Lena Kolarska-Bobińska, Erminia Mazzoni

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 12a (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 74

Erminia Mazzoni

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 ***respond to it in a***

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

clear, comprehensible and detailed manner, addressing the legal and political aspects separately, 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 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 and the European Parliament, through its committee responsible, should cooperate with a view to organising this debate. The Petitions Committee of the European Parliament should, in view of its long experience in dealing with citizens' petitions, be a privileged contact in this matter. 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

Amendment 75

Mariya Nedelcheva, Simon Busuttill, Pascale Gruny, Lena Kolarska-Bobińska

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 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. The Petitions Committee of the European Parliament should, in view of its long experience in dealing with citizens' petitions, be a privileged contact in this matter. 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

Amendment 76
Nikolaos Salavrakos

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 ***two or more*** Member States;

Or. en

Amendment 77
Bairbre de Brún, Willy Meyer, Helmut Scholz

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 ***three*** Member States;

Amendment 78
Marian Harkin

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 *quarter* of all Member States;

Or. en

Amendment 79
Bairbre de Brún, Willy Meyer, Helmut Scholz

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 citizens *or residents* of the Union that have supported a given citizens" initiative by completing a statement of support for that initiative;

Or. en

Justification

There are many reasons why all the participation of all residents should be facilitated, including:

- *Non-EU citizens are fully integrated into political life in most member states (being active in political parties, trade unions and community groups, being elected as local councillors or even mayors, etc.) - it seems anomalous that they can not sign an initiative which is not binding in legislative terms*
- *It sends a signal to non-EU citizens that the EU is not their concern and does not want their involvement or input*
- *The process of verification of signatures may be done by member states by verifying a sample of signatures. This will encourage campaigners to actively discourage non-EU citizens from signing initiatives for fear of skewing the sample.*
- *It will exclude not only individuals but whole communities which will simply not be targeted by campaigners due to their having a higher percentage of non-EU citizens.*
- *It will promote subliminal racism as campaigners are encouraged to target people who look "more European" when collecting signatures.*
- *The political concept of a "citizens Europe", which inspires the European Citizens' Initiative was never intended to be exclusive, nor to discourage non-EU citizens from engaging with the EU*

Amendment 80

Bairbre de Brún, Willy Meyer, Helmut Scholz

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. Where the organiser is a natural person, that person shall be a citizen of the Union and be *at least 16 years* of age.

Or. en

Amendment 81

Bairbre de Brún, Willy Meyer, Helmut Scholz

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*

Amendment

2. In order to be eligible to support a proposed citizens' initiative, signatories shall be citizens of *or resident in the* Union.

European elections.

Or. en

Amendment 82

Bairbre de Brún, Willy Meyer, Helmut Scholz

Proposal for a regulation

Article 4 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 1a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

Funding may not come, either directly or indirectly, from private companies.

Or. en

Amendment 83

Mariya Nedelcheva, Simon Busuttill, Anna Maria Corazza Bildt, Pascale Gruny, Lena Kolarska-Bobińska, Erminia Mazzoni

Proposal for a regulation

Article 4 – paragraph 1

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

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.***

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 all sources of support and funding for the initiative. Funding by political parties and European political groups shall not be permitted.

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").

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

All the sources of support and funding for the initiative should be made public in order to allow full transparency. Political parties and European political groups should not financially support an ECI.

Amendment 84 **Nikolaos Salavrakos**

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 different language 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.

Or. en

Amendment 85
Nikolaos Salavrakos

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 different language 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 in line with Article 2 of the Treaty on European Union.

Or. en

Amendment 86
Bairbre de Brún, Helmut Scholz

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 4 – subparagraphs 1 and 1 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

If an initiative seeks to introduce a change to the Treaties, the Commission shall advise the organisers that it will be unable to present a legislative proposal (since there is no Treaty basis for doing so). In addition the Commission shall notify the European Parliament and the Council to that effect and shall make such notification public.

The organisers may in that event continue to collect signatures. The initiative shall respect the same rules and procedures as a normal citizens' initiative.

Or. en

Justification

In accordance with Article 48 of the Treaty on European Union the European Parliament may submit proposals for the amendment of the Treaties. For this reason the Parliament shall be informed of such initiatives.

Amendment 87
Lena Kolarska-Bobińska

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

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

4a. If a citizen's initiative is rejected pursuant to paragraph 3, the Commission's decision rejecting it may, upon request by the organisers, be the subject of an appeal. Such appeal shall be submitted to the European Parliament, which may order the Commission to issue

an opinion. If the European Parliament does not adopt a position within three months, the appeal shall be deemed rejected and the original opinion of the Commission shall stand.

Or. en

Amendment 88

Bairbre de Brún, Willy Meyer, Helmut Scholz

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 **24** months.

Or. en

Amendment 89

Ioannis A. Tsoukalas

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.

Initiatives that have expired may not be re-submitted until a period of 12 months has elapsed.

Amendment 90

Mariya Nedelcheva, Simon Busuttil, Anna Maria Corazza Bildt, Pascale Gruny, Lena Kolarska-Bobińska, Erminia Mazzoni

Proposal for a regulation

Article 5 – paragraph 4 – subparagraph 1 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

At the end of that period, the register shall indicate that the period has expired and, where appropriate, that the Commission has ascertained that the necessary statements of support have not been submitted.

Or. en

Amendment 91

Bairbre de Brún, Willy Meyer, Helmut Scholz

Proposal for a regulation

Article 6 – paragraph 1– subparagraph 1 (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

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 must be managed by independent bodies which are obliged to maintain confidentiality.

Or. en

Amendment 92

Mariya Nedelcheva, Simon Busuttill, Anna Maria Corazza Bildt, Pascale Gruny, Lena Kolarska-Bobińska, Erminia Mazzoni

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 **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 **initiating the collection of** statements of support.

The organisers 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.

The Commission shall inform the European Parliament of the state of progress in the creation of the open-source software by no later than three months after the entry into force of this Regulation.

Or. en

Justification

In order for the open-source software to guarantee that the online collection of signatures is simple, unified in all the Member States and respects the data protection requirements, the Commission should inform the Parliament on the progress made. This should be done before the open-source software is definitely made available. This would enable to point out problems in order for the Commission to correct them.

Amendment 93 **Nikolaos Salavrakos**

Proposal for a regulation **Article 7**

Text proposed by the Commission

Article 7

Minimum number of signatories per Member State

1. The signatories of a citizens' initiative shall come from at least ***one third of*** Member States.
2. In ***one third of*** Member ***States***, signatories shall comprise at least the minimum number of citizens set out in Annex I.
3. Signatories shall be considered as coming from the Member State ***which issued the identification document indicated in their statement of support.***

Amendment

Article 7

Minimum number of signatories per Member State

1. The signatories of a citizens' initiative shall come from at least ***two*** Member States.
2. In ***each*** Member ***State***, signatories shall comprise at least the minimum number of citizens set out in Annex I.
3. Signatories shall be considered as coming from the Member State ***where they 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

Consequence of amendment at article 2, paragraph 1.

Amendment 94
Bairbre de Brún, Willy Meyer, Helmut Scholz

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 **three** Member States.

Or. en

Amendment 95
Marian Harkin

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 **quarter** of Member States.

Or. en

Amendment 96
Bairbre de Brún, Willy Meyer, Helmut Scholz

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

Or. en

Amendment 97
Marian Harkin

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

Or. en

Amendment 98
Mariya Nedelcheva, Simon Busuttil, Anna Maria Corazza Bildt, Lena Kolarska-Bobińska, Erminia Mazzoni

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 99

Mariya Nedelcheva, Simon Busuttil, Anna Maria Corazza Bildt, Lena Kolarska-Bobińska, Erminia Mazzoni

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.***

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.

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 100

Bairbre de Brún, Willy Meyer, Helmut Scholz

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 information shall be published on the Commission's homepage.***

Or. en

Amendment 101

Mariya Nedelcheva, Simon Busuttil, Anna Maria Corazza Bildt, Pascale Gruny, Lena Kolarska-Bobińska, Erminia Mazzoni

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. ***When doing so, the organisers shall provide the Commission with precise and detailed information concerning all the sources of support and funding received for the citizens' initiative. Funding by political parties and European political groups shall not be permitted.***

Justification

All the sources of support and funding for the initiative should be made public in order to allow full transparency. Political parties and European political groups should not financially support an ECI.

Amendment 102
Erminia Mazzoni

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;
- aa. receive the organisers at an appropriate level to allow them to explain in detail the matters raised by the initiative;**
- b. examine the citizens' initiative and, within **three months**, set out in a communication its **initial** conclusions on the initiative;
- ba. present 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.**

Amendment 103
Nikolaos Salavrakos

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;

aa. receive the organisers at an appropriate level to allow them to explain in detail the matters raised by the initiative and organise a public hearing on the subject-matter of the initiative, if appropriate jointly with other institutions or bodies of the EU;

b. examine the citizens' initiative and ***present a proposal for a legal act within one year or include that proposal in its next year's Work Programme.***

Or. en

Amendment 104
Mariya Nedelcheva, Simon Busuttil, Pascale Gruny, Lena Kolarska-Bobińska

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***

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***

any, and its reasons for doing so.

the initiative;

ba. organise a public hearing, if appropriate jointly with the European Parliament, notably its Petitions Committee, at which the organisers shall have the opportunity to explain in detail the matters raised by the initiative;

bb. present a legislative proposal within one year or include that 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

Amendment 105
Erminia Mazzoni

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

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

2a. The European Parliament shall organise through its Petitions Committee a public hearing at which the organiser shall have the opportunity to explain in detail the matters raised by the initiative. To that end, the Commission shall cooperate with the European Parliament and ensure appropriate representation at the hearing.

Or. en

Amendment 106
Victor Boştinaru

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

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

2a. The European Parliament shall organise a public hearing, if possible during the first month after the submission of the initiative to the Commission, at which the organisers shall have the opportunity to explain in detail the matters raised by the initiative. To that end, the Commission shall cooperate with the European Parliament and ensure appropriate representation at the hearing.

Or. en

Justification

The European Parliament, with the relevant parliamentary Committee, that could be the Committee on petitions, in collaboration with the European Commission, should be in charge of organising the public hearing.

Amendment 107

Mariya Nedelcheva, Simon Busuttil, Anna Maria Corazza Bildt, Pascale Gruny, Lena Kolarska-Bobińska, Erminia Mazzoni

Proposal for a regulation
Article 15

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

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

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);

– 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.

The provisions determining the minimum amount of support and funding in excess of which information is to be provided should not be decided by means of delegated acts, as there should not be any minimum threshold for financial support.

Amendment 108

Bairbre de Brún, Helmut Scholz

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 the Annexes *to* this Regulation, *with the exception of Annexes I, II and III.*

Or. en

Amendment 109

Mariya Nedelcheva, Simon Busuttil, Anna Maria Corazza Bildt, Pascale Gruny, Lena Kolarska-Bobińska, Erminia Mazzoni

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 support and funding of initiatives, together, if appropriate, with a legislative proposal for amendment of this Regulation.

Or. en

Amendment 110
Erminia Mazzoni

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 12 months after its entry into force.***

Or. en

Amendment 111
Bairbre de Brún, Willy Meyer, Helmut Scholz

Proposal for a regulation
Annex I

Text proposed by the Commission

Minimum number of signatories per Member State

Austria	14250
Belgium	16500
Bulgaria	13500
Cyprus	4500
Czech republic	16500
Denmark	9750
Estonia	4500
Finland	9750
France	55500

Amendment

Minimum number of signatories per Member State (***number of MEPs x 100***)

Austria	1900
Belgium	2200
Bulgaria	1800
Cyprus	600
Czech republic	2200
Denmark	1300
Estonia	600
Finland	1300
France	7400

Germany **72000**
Greece **16500**
Hungary **16500**
Ireland **9000**
Italy **54750**
Latvia **6750**
Lithuania **9000**
Luxembourg **4500**
Malta **4500**
Netherlands **19500**
Poland **38250**
Portugal **16500**
Romania **24750**
Slovakia **9750**
Slovenia **6000**
Spain **40500**
Sweden **15000**
United Kingdom **54750**

Germany **9600**
Greece **2200**
Hungary **2200**
Ireland **1200**
Italy **7300**
Latvia **900**
Lithuania **1200**
Luxembourg **600**
Malta **600**
Netherlands **2600**
Poland **5100**
Portugal **2200**
Romania **3300**
Slovakia **1300**
Slovenia **800**
Spain **5400**
Sweden **2000**
United Kingdom **7300**

Or. en

Amendment 112

Ioannis A. Tsoukalas

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

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 **500** characters;
3. The description of the objectives of the proposal on which the Commission is invited to act, in no more than **1000** characters;
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 *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.

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

Amendment 113

Lena Kolarska-Bobińska

Proposal for a regulation

Annex II – paragraph 2a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

If, after entry in the register, the particulars regarding sources of funding or support or other data are amended, the organiser shall inform the Commission to that effect in a timely manner.

Or. en

Amendment 114

Mariya Nedelcheva, Simon Busuttil, Anna Maria Corazza Bildt, Pascale Gruny, Lena Kolarska-Bobińska, Erminia Mazzoni

Proposal for a regulation

Annex III – box 2 – point 5 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

5a. all sources of support and funding received in respect of the proposed citizens' initiative.

Amendment 115
Bairbre de Brún, Willy Meyer, Helmut Scholz

Proposal for a regulation
Annex III – box 3

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

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] E-mail address to be provided by
online signatories
[²] Signature not required for online
signatories

1. Name of signatory:
First name*:.....Family name*:
2. Address:
Street:
Postcode: City*:
3. E-mail address: [¹]

Date *of* signature
Signature of the signatory* ♦: [²].....