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Committee on Constitutional Affairs

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AMENDMENTS

61 - 204

Draft report

Zita Gurmai and Alain Lamassoure
(PE445.836v02-00)

on the 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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Amendment 61
Íñigo Méndez de Vigo

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 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 ***by way of a European citizens' initiative. This instrument affords citizens the option of addressing the Commission directly and inviting it to submit any legislative proposal within the framework of its powers.***

Or. es

Amendment 62
Andreas Mölzer

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

Amendment

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

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.

legal act of the Union is required for the purpose of implementing the Treaties.

Or. de

Amendment 63
Helmut Scholz, Bairbre de Brún

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 64
Helmut Scholz, Bairbre de Brún

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 65
Helmut Scholz, Bairbre de Brún

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 entitled to participate in citizens' initiatives.

Or. en

Amendment 66
Íñigo Méndez de Vigo

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) The procedures and conditions governing the citizens' initiative should be clear, simple, user-friendly and proportionate to its nature, they should also strike a reasonable balance between rights and obligations.

Or. es

Amendment 67
Helmut Scholz, Bairbre de Brún

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
Morten Messerschmidt

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 5

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

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

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

Or. en

Justification

Consequence of amendment at article 2, paragraph 1.

Amendment 69
Helmut Scholz, Bairbre de Brún

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 5

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

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

(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.

three Member States.

Or. en

Amendment 70
Martin Ehrenhauser

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. ***This threshold should*** ensure that a citizens' initiative is representative of a Union interest, ***but the requirements should not be too arduous.*** ***It should therefore*** be set at ***one sixth*** of Member States.

Or. de

Amendment 71
Íñigo Méndez de Vigo

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. 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. In order to ensure that a citizens' initiative is representative of a Union interest, this number should be set at one ***fifth*** of Member States.

Or. es

Amendment 72
Andrew Duff, Guy Verhofstadt, Stanimir Ilchev, Diana Wallis

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 **signatories** must come. In order to ensure that a citizens' initiative **comes from a significant number of Member States**, this number should be set at **nine**.

Or. en

Justification

Article 20(2) of the Treaty on European Union provides for nine States to trigger enhanced cooperation.

Amendment 73

Syed Kamall

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 5

Text proposed by the Commission

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

Amendment

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

Or. en

Amendment 74

Andreas Mölzer

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

Amendment

(5) It is necessary to establish the minimum number of Member States from which citizens must come. In order to ensure that a citizens' initiative is representative of a

Union interest, this number should be set at *one third* of Member States.

Union interest, this number should be set at *one quarter* of Member States.

Or. de

Amendment 75
Matthias Groot

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 5

Text proposed by the Commission

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

Amendment

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

Or. de

Amendment 76
Andrew Duff, Cecilia Wikström, Stanimir Ilchev, Guy Verhofstadt, Alexandra Thein

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 6

Text proposed by the Commission

(6) For that purpose, it is also appropriate to establish the minimum number of citizens coming from each of those Member States. In order to ensure *similar* conditions for citizens *to support a citizens' initiative*, these minimum numbers should be degressively proportional to the *size of each Member State*. *For the purpose of clarity they should be set out for each Member State in an Annex to the present Regulation.*

Amendment

(6) For that purpose, it is also appropriate to establish the minimum number of citizens coming from each of those Member States. In order to ensure *fair* conditions for citizens *of all nationalities*, these minimum numbers should be degressively proportional *according* to the *formula as agreed from time to time for the distribution of seats in the European Parliament.*

Or. en

Justification

The distribution of seats in the European Parliament will be altered on a regular basis in accordance with a formula respecting in full the principle of degressive proportionality.

Amendment 77

Anneli Jäätteenmäki

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 6

Text proposed by the Commission

(6) For that purpose, it is also appropriate to establish the minimum number of citizens coming from each of those Member States. In order to ensure *similar* conditions for citizens *to support a citizens' initiative*, these minimum numbers should be degressively proportional to the *size of each Member State*. *For the purpose of clarity they should be set out for each Member State in an Annex to the present Regulation.*

Amendment

(6) For that purpose, it is also appropriate to establish the minimum number of citizens coming from each of those Member States. In order to ensure *fair* conditions for citizens *of all nationalities*, these minimum numbers should be degressively proportional *according* to the *formula as agreed from time to time for the distribution of seats in the European Parliament.*

Or. en

Justification

The distribution of seats in the European Parliament will be altered on a regular basis in accordance with a formula respecting in full the principle of degressive proportionality.

Amendment 78

Helmut Scholz, Bairbre de Brún

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

deleted

Amendment 79
Andreas Mölzer

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 7

Text proposed by the Commission

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

Amendment

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

Or. de

Amendment 80
Enrique Guerrero Salom

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 7

Text proposed by the Commission

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

Amendment

(7) It is appropriate to fix a minimum age for supporting a citizens' initiative. This should be set as the age *laid down in each Member State, taking as reference elections to* the European Parliament.

Or. es

Amendment 81
Anneli Jäätteenmäki

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 7 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(7a) It must be ensured that all legally resident inhabitants of the Member States, irrespective of sex, racial or ethnic origin,

disability, sexual orientation, religion or belief, have equal opportunities to participate in a citizens' initiative as an organiser or as a signatory and that the principles of non-discrimination are followed. Information about citizens' initiatives should be accessible and easy to understand for everyone.

Or. en

Amendment 82
Martin Ehrenhauser

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; registration should be based only on legal grounds and it should not, on any account, be possible to refuse registration on grounds of political expediency.*** The Commission should deal with registration in accordance with ***a clear list of admissibility criteria adopted by the Commission.***

In the event of registration's being rejected, any citizen should be able to ascertain swiftly and simply by means of an appropriate Internet site what initiative

has been refused and on what grounds. In such a case the organisers of the initiative should be informed of all possible judicial and extrajudicial remedies available to them.

Or. de

Amendment 83
Marietta Giannakou

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 8

Text proposed by the Commission

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

Amendment

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

Or. el

Amendment 84
Paul Rübzig

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 10

Text proposed by the Commission

(10) It is appropriate to provide for

Amendment

(10) ***In order to put modern technology to***

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

good use as a tool of participatory democracy, it is appropriate to provide for statements of support to be collected **online as well as** in paper form. **Both** collection systems should, **in a comparable manner**, have adequate security features in place in order to ensure, *inter alia*, that **one and the same person signs only once** and that the data are securely stored. **The detailed technical specifications of the on-line collection systems 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. de

Amendment 85 **Matthias Grootte**

Proposal for a regulation **Recital 10**

Text proposed by the Commission

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

Amendment

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

Or. de

Amendment 86
Syed Kamall

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 10

Text proposed by the Commission

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

Amendment

(10) It is appropriate to provide for statements of support to be collected in paper form as well as online. Online collection systems should have adequate security features in place in order to ensure, inter alia, that the person can be identified and that the data are securely stored. For this purpose, the Commission should be required to set out detailed technical specifications for online collection systems. ***The requirements in respect of those technical specifications should not, however, present unjustifiable obstacles for organisers wishing to use online collection systems.***

Or. en

Amendment 87
Syed Kamall

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 12

Text proposed by the Commission

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

Amendment

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

Or. en

Amendment 88
Gerald Häfner, Sandrine Bélier

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 **enable citizens to collect statements of support in as many Member States as possible**, whilst **ensuring** that proposed citizens' initiatives remain relevant, that time-limit should be **18** months from the date of registration of the proposed initiative.

Or. en

Justification

The necessary time limit has to match the European character of the citizens' initiative. Organisers need time for collecting statements of support in a significant number of Member States and various languages. Within a 12 months time limit, only 3 out of 23 preliminary citizens' initiatives so far initiated were able to collect one million signatures. Furthermore, the time-limit should reflect that the citizens' initiative is intended as an instrument for citizens and not just powerful organisations. Finally, the most important impact of the instrument will be to create European-wide discourses and transnational citizens' engagement. Both need time. Therefore an 18 months time-limit is a more realistic, citizens' friendly and appropriate solution.

Amendment 89
Anneli Jäätteenmäki

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

Amendment

(12) It is appropriate to ensure that statements of support for a citizens' initiative are collected within a specific time-limit. In order to ensure that proposed citizens' initiatives remain relevant, whilst

taking account of the complexity of collecting statements of support across the European Union, that time-limit should not be longer than **12** months from the date of registration of the proposed initiative.

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 90

Mariya Nedelcheva, Anna Maria Corazza Bildt

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 12 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(12a) It is crucial that transparency be maintained throughout the whole process. Therefore, any financial or political support received should be indicated in the statement of support form relating to each citizens' initiative. Funding by political parties and European political groups should not be permitted.

Or. en

Amendment 91

Anneli Jäätteenmäki

Proposal for a regulation

Recital 15

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(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***

(15) It is appropriate to provide that, where a citizens' initiative has received the necessary statements of support from signatories, each Member State should be

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.

responsible for the verification and certification of statements of support collected from *legally resident inhabitants of* that *Member* 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

The States should be responsible for the verification and certification of statements of support collected from legally resident inhabitants of that Member State. Random sampling is the acknowledged efficient methodology to verify the authenticity of a very large number of signatures.

Amendment 92

Andrew Duff, Cecilia Wikström, Guy Verhofstadt, Diana Wallis, Stanimir Ilchev, Alexandra Thein

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) 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 *in* 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.

Justification

The States should be responsible for the verification of all the signatures collected in their State, regardless of the nationality of the signatory. Random sampling is the acknowledged efficient methodology to verify the authenticity of a very large number of signatures.

Amendment 93**Syed Kamall****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) 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 **five** 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 94**Andreas Mölzer****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

Amendment

(17) The Commission should examine a citizens' initiative and set out its conclusions and the actions it envisages to

take in response to it, within a period of *four months*.

take in response to it, within a period of *three months*. *Where a citizens' initiative is supported by more than one million Union citizens, the Commission should take action with regard to the matter which it concerns. At all events, a successful initiative should also be the subject of an official hearing at Union level. In this case, the institutions and bodies of the Union should cooperate with a view to organising this debate.*

Or. de

Amendment 95

Andrew Duff, Cecilia Wikström, Guy Verhofstadt, Diana Wallis, Stanimir Ilchev, Alexandra Thein

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

Or. en

Justification

The Commission must be held responsible for a citizen-friendly approach to communication and for a thorough justification of its course of action.

Amendment 96
Anneli Jäätteenmäki

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.**

As a third step, the Commission should come forward with its final response to the initiative, 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.

The decision should be subject to appeal to the Court of Justice, and/or to the European Ombudsman if there appear to be justifiable grounds on which a case of maladministration can be made.

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

After registration has successfully been sought and one million signatures have been collected, the Commission and the European Parliament should invariably be required to face up to the demands of the citizens in the form of a right for the initiators to receive a public hearing.

Amendment 98
Syed Kamall

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

In the case of a successful citizens' initiative, the Commission should hold an official public hearing at European Union level on the subject raised by the initiative, and ensure that it is represented at an appropriate level. The European Parliament, through its relevant committee or committees, should always be invited to participate in the organising of such hearings.

Or. en

Amendment 99
Anneli Jäätteenmäki

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) 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, ***save where such amendment would involve the addition of further personal data relating to signatories.***

Or. en

Amendment 100
Matthias Groote, Zita Gurmai, Alain Lamassoure

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 23

Text proposed by the Commission

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

Amendment

(23) The Commission should report on the implementation of this Regulation **three** years after its entry into force. ***When doing so, the Commission should pay special attention to online collection systems, among other issues. Since the setting-up and operation of individual websites fulfilling data-protection and safety criteria for all citizen's initiatives may prove difficult and costly for organisers and for Member States, due to the need to certify individual online collection systems, it might in the future become essential for the Commission to launch a central website, in which all initiatives would be registered in such a way that they could be located, accessed and signed by citizens. If serious data-protection and safety problems arise in the system of individual websites, the Commission should carefully examine the possibility of setting up such a central website.***

Or. en

Amendment 101
Andreas Mölzer

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 23

Text proposed by the Commission

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

Amendment

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

Or. de

Amendment 102
Syed Kamall

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 23

Text proposed by the Commission

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

Amendment

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

Or. en

Amendment 103
Syed Kamall

Proposal for a regulation
Recital 24 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

(24a) This Regulation should ensure that financial costs to Member States as a result of implementation of the citizens' initiative scheme are kept to an absolute minimum, with safeguards being put in place to prevent excessive or unnecessary costs burdening Member States and their taxpayers even further.

Or. en

Amendment 104
Morten Messerschmidt

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

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;

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 *two* Member States;

Or. en

Amendment 105
Helmut Scholz, Bairbre de Brún

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;

Or. en

Amendment 106
Martin Ehrenhauser

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

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;

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 sixth* of all Member States;

Or. de

Amendment 107

Andrew Duff, Guy Verhofstadt, Diana Wallis, Stanimir Ilchev

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 *nine* Member States;

Or. en

Justification

Article 20(2) of the Treaty on European Union provides for nine States to trigger enhanced cooperation.

Amendment 108

Syed Kamall

Proposal for a regulation

Article 2 – point 1

Text proposed by the Commission

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

Amendment

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

Or. en

Amendment 109
Andreas Mölzer

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. de

Amendment 110
Matthias Grootte

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. de

Amendment 111

Andrew Duff, Cecilia Wikström, Diana Wallis, Guy Verhofstadt, Stanimir Ilchev

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 **all legally resident inhabitants** of the **Member States** that have supported a given citizens' initiative by completing a statement of support for that initiative;

Or. en

Justification

Broadening the scope from EU citizens to include third country citizens legally resident in the Union will avoid the need to discriminate officiously on grounds of nationality. Signatories are not expected to be electors: the citizens' initiative is a broader instrument of democratic participation than voting for Members of the European Parliament.

Amendment 112
Anneli Jäätteenmäki

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 *all legally resident inhabitants* of the *Member States* that have supported a given citizens" initiative by completing a statement of support for that initiative;

Or. en

Justification

Broadening the scope from EU citizens to include third country citizens legally resident in the Union will avoid the need to discriminate officiously on grounds of nationality. Signatories are not expected to be electors: the citizens' initiative is a broader instrument of democratic participation than voting for Members of the European Parliament.

Amendment 113
Helmut Scholz, Bairbre de Brún

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, not to discourage non-EU citizens from engaging with the EU

Amendment 114
Matthias Grootte

Proposal for a regulation
Article 2 – point 3

Text proposed by the Commission

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

Amendment

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

Or. de

Amendment 115
Helmut Scholz, Bairbre de Brún

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 116
Martin Ehrenhauser

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

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

Organisers shall form a citizens' committee of at least five persons who are residents of at least five 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. de

Amendment 117
Matthias Grootte

Proposal for a regulation
Article 3 – paragraph 1 – subparagraphs 1 a and 1 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

The organisers shall form an organising committee of at least seven persons coming from at least seven Member States.

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

Or. de

Amendment 118
Syed Kamall

Proposal for a regulation
Article 3 – paragraph 1– subparagraphs 1 a, 1 b and 1 c (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

Organisers shall form a citizens' committee composed of at least six persons who are residents of at least six 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.

The organisers shall notify the Commission of any changes to the membership or designated representatives of the citizens' committee.

Or. en

Amendment 119

Anna Maria Corazza Bildt, Mariya Nedelcheva, Alain Lamassoure

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 1 – subparagraphs 1 a and 1 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

Organisers shall form a "citizens' committee" composed of persons coming from at least one fifth of Member States.

If the organisers are members of national parliaments or members of the European Parliament, they shall not be counted for the purposes of reaching the minimum number required to form a citizens' committee.

Or. en

Justification

It is important to give a strong message to citizens that this instrument is conceived for them and to encourage them to use it and participate. Parliamentarians have other ways to

propose legislation and create a debate at the European level.

Amendment 120

Paulo Rangel

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 1 – subparagraphs 1 a and 1 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

The organisers shall form a citizens' committee of at least seven persons who are residents of at least three 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. pt

Justification

What is essential, in our view, is to ensure that, ultimately, the signatures collected come from six Member States. The initial stage should not be overly complicated. It should therefore be sufficient at this stage to require three Member States to be represented.

Amendment 121

Andreas Mölzer

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 – paragraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

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

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

concerned.

Or. de

Amendment 122

Andrew Duff, Cecilia Wikström, Guy Verhofstadt, Diana Wallis, Stanimir Ilchev

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 **legally resident within** the Union and shall be **at least 16 years** of age.

Or. en

Justification

Broadening the scope from EU citizens to include third country citizens legally resident in the Union will avoid the need to discriminate officiously on grounds of nationality. Signatories are not expected to be electors: the citizens' initiative is a broader instrument of democratic participation than voting for Members of the European Parliament. Moreover, a uniform age threshold for taking part in a European citizens' initiative gives an equal right to all citizens: relying on minimum voting age would not achieve this equality.

Amendment 123

Anneli Jäätteenmäki

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 **legally resident within** the Union and shall be **at least 16 years** of age.

Or. en

Justification

Broadening the scope from EU citizens to include third country citizens legally resident in the Union will avoid the need to discriminate officiously on grounds of nationality. Signatories are not expected to be electors: the citizens' initiative is a broader instrument of democratic participation than voting for Members of the European Parliament. Moreover, a uniform age threshold for taking part in a European citizens' initiative gives an equal right to all citizens: relying on minimum voting age would not achieve this equality.

Amendment 124

Helmut Scholz, Bairbre de Brún

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 ***or resident in*** the Union.

Or. en

Amendment 125

Martin Ehrenhauser

Proposal for a regulation

Article 3 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

Article 3a Requirement applicable to the Commission

The Commission shall draw up a clear list of admissibility criteria, indicating the rules relating to the collection of signatures (on paper and on line) and all the formal criteria for completing the form for a statement of support.

The list of eligibility criteria should also make it clear to European citizens on what subjects no citizens' initiatives may

be launched and on what specific grounds an application may be rejected.

Or. de

Amendment 126
Martin Ehrenhauser

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 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.

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 on their website, for the register defined in the second subparagraph, regularly updated information** on the sources of **support and funding** for the initiative. **This information must also include details of donations exceeding € 1 000. The information concerning support and funding shall be checked by an independent auditor. The costs incurred shall be reimbursed to the initiators pursuant to Article 10(2a).**

Or. de

Amendment 127
Mariya Nedelcheva, Anna Maria Corazza Bildt

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 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**

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 *as well as* on the sources of funding *and support* for the proposed citizens' initiative.

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.

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 128

Helmut Scholz, Bairbre de Brún

Proposal for a regulation

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

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

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

Or. en

Amendment 129

Martin Ehrenhauser

Proposal for a regulation

Article 4 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

This information shall be provided in one

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").

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 Commission.***

Or. de

Amendment 130
Andreas Mölzer

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 2

Text proposed by the Commission

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

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

Or. de

Amendment 131
Syed Kamall

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

Or. en

Amendment 132
Andreas Mölzer

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 following its receipt, provided that the following conditions are met:

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

(b) 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;

(c) the proposed initiative is neither abusive nor devoid of seriousness.

Or. de

Amendment 133
Andrew Duff, Cecilia Wikström, Guy Verhofstadt, Stanimir Ilchev, Diana Wallis, Alexandra Thein

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 manifestly falls within the competences of the Union as conferred on the Union by Member States and falls within the framework of the powers of the Commission 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;

(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

In 3(c) it is important to stick exactly to the provisions of Article 11(4) of the Treaty on European Union, but also, as a useful guide, to refer to the competences of the Union as laid down in Articles 3, 4, 5 and 6 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.

Amendment 134

Morten Messerschmidt

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 135
Martin Ehrenhauser

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 3 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

3a. The Commission shall refuse to register a proposed initiative 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. Should the Commission refuse to register an initiative, it shall inform the organisers of the reasons for this refusal and ensure that EU citizens have quick and easy access (Internet) to a statement of those reasons and to details of all the legal and non-legal forms of redress available to them.

Or. de

Amendment 136
Matthias Grootte

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 3 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

3a. the citizens' committee has been formed and the contact persons have been designated;

Or. de

Amendment 137
Marietta Giannakou

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 3 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

3a. In the interests of the greatest possible transparency, the means and source of funding of citizens' initiatives must be made public. National and European political parties and their political foundations must be excluded as sources of funding.

Or. el

Amendment 138
Matthias Grootte

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 3 b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

3b. the initiative does not manifestly fall outside the scope of the Commission's power under the Treaties to submit an appropriate proposal for the requested legal act;

Amendment 139
Morten Messerschmidt

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. da

Justification

The whole of paragraph 4 should be deleted as the words 'values of the Union' makes it possible for the Commission to censor citizens' initiatives if these do not accord with those values.

Amendment 140
Syed Kamall

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*.

4. The Commission shall reject the registration of proposed citizens' initiatives which are manifestly against the values of ***respect for human dignity, liberty, freedom of speech, democracy, equality, the rule of law and respect for human rights.***

Or. en

Amendment 141
Marietta Giannakou

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 4

Text proposed by the Commission

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

Amendment

4. The Commission shall reject the registration of proposed citizens' initiatives which are manifestly against the values of the Union, *especially as expressed in the Charter of Fundamental Rights and the European Convention on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms.*

Or. el

Amendment 142
Helmut Scholz, Bairbre de Brún

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 4 – subparagraphs 1 a and 1 b (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 143
Lena Kolarska-Bobińska

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

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

4a. If a citizens' 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 a new opinion. If the European Parliament does not adopt a position within three month, the appeal shall be deemed rejected and the original opinion of the Commission shall stand.

Or. en

Amendment 144
Morten Messerschmidt

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

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

4a. If the Commission rejects a proposal for a citizen's initiative, the organisers shall have an opportunity to submit the initiative to the European Parliament's AFCO Committee, which will then discuss the content of the initiative and the Commission's rejection.

Or. da

Justification

If Commission officials themselves can determine whether a citizen's initiative can be put forward, the organisers should also have the possibility to present the initiative rejected by

the Commission to elected MEPs in the AFCO Committee, which is the most competent European Parliament Committee to deal with issues of this nature.

Amendment 145
Marietta Giannakou

Proposal for a regulation
Article 4 – paragraph 5

Text proposed by the Commission

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

Amendment

5. A proposed citizens' initiative that has been registered shall be made public in the register ***immediately and be easily accessible to all and registered not only in the register but also in a list according to the subject of the initiative for a legal act.***

Or. el

Amendment 146
Helmut Scholz, Bairbre de Brún

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 147
Syed Kamall

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

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 **12 months**.

the proposed initiative and within a period that shall not exceed **24 months**.

Or. en

Amendment 148
Gerald Häfner, Sandrine Bélier

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**.

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

Justification

The necessary time limit has to match the European character of the citizens' initiative. Organisers need time for collecting statements of support in a significant number of Member States and various languages. Within a 12 months time limit, only 3 out of 23 preliminary citizens' initiatives so far initiated were able to collect one million signatures. Furthermore, the time-limit should reflect that the citizens' initiative is intended as an instrument for citizens and not just powerful organisations. Finally, the most important impact of the instrument will be to create European-wide discourses and transnational citizens' engagement. Both need time. Therefore an 18 month time-limit is a more realistic, citizens' friendly and appropriate solution.

Amendment 149
Anneli Jäätteenmäki

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 150

Helmut Scholz, Bairbre de Brún

Proposal for a regulation

Article 6 – paragraph 1 – subparagraph 1 a (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 151

Paul Rübzig

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 **starting 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 package with the relevant support services (technical support, operation of an IT centre, ongoing maintenance and further development of the software) incorporating all of the technical and security features necessary for compliance with the provisions of this Regulation regarding the online collection systems. The software and the relevant support services shall be made available to the organisers free of charge.**

Or. de

Amendment 152
Íñigo Méndez de Vigo

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 identity of the person can be **reliably** verified, **to ensure that each person signs**

only one statement,

Or. es

Amendment 153
Matthias Grootte

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

Text proposed by the Commission

c. the data provided online is securely stored, in order to ensure, inter alia, that it may not be modified or used for any other purpose than its indicated support of the given citizens' initiative and to protect personal data against accidental or unlawful destruction or accidental loss, alteration or unauthorized disclosure or access.

Amendment

c. the data provided online is securely **collected and** stored, in order to ensure, inter alia, that it may not be modified or used for any other purpose than its indicated support of the given citizens' initiative and to protect personal data against accidental or unlawful destruction or accidental loss, alteration or unauthorized disclosure or access.

Or. de

Amendment 154
Syed Kamall

Proposal for a regulation
Article 6 – paragraph 5 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

5a. The report to be submitted by the Commission in accordance with Article 21 shall include its conclusions concerning the possibility of setting up a single website to replace the organising committee websites that are based in individual Member States.

Or. en

Amendment 155
Morten Messerschmidt

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 **two** Member States.

Or. en

Justification

Consequence of amendment at article 2, paragraph 1.

Amendment 156
Helmut Scholz, Bairbre de Brún

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 157
Martin Ehrenhauser

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 **sixth** of Member States.

Or. de

Amendment 158

Andrew Duff, Guy Verhofstadt, Stanimir Ilchev, Diana Wallis

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 ***nine*** Member States.

Or. en

Justification

Article 20(2) of the Treaty on European Union provides for nine States to trigger enhanced cooperation.

Amendment 159

Andreas Mölzer

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. de

Amendment 160

Matthias Groote

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

Amendment

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

Member States.

Member States.

Or. de

Amendment 161
Morten Messerschmidt

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

Or. en

Justification

Consequence of amendment at article 2, paragraph 1.

Amendment 162
Helmut Scholz, Bairbre de Brún

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 163
Martin Ehrenhauser

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

Or. de

Amendment 164

Andrew Duff, Guy Verhofstadt, Stanimir Ilchev, Diana Wallis

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 **nine** Member States, **the number of** signatories shall **conform to** the **formula** of **degressive proportionality as established in the current distribution of seats in the European Parliament**.

Or. en

Amendment 165

Andreas Mölzer

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. de

Amendment 166
Matthias Grootte

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. de

Amendment 167
Íñigo Méndez de Vigo

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. For the purposes of paragraph 1, Union citizens who have permanent residence in a third country shall be considered as coming from the Member State of which they are nationals.***

Or. es

Amendment 168
Rafał Trzaskowski

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, bearing in mind that they must be citizens of the***

Amendment 169
Enrique Guerrero Salom

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. In the case of dual residence, one shall be established for granting the right to take part.***

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

Amendment 170
Morten Messerschmidt

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

Justification

Consequence of amendment at article 2, paragraph 1.

Amendment 171
Syed Kamall

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 **five 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.

Or. en

Amendment 172
Martin Ehrenhauser

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 needed to trigger the requirement to provide information shall be determined by the Commission by means of delegated acts, pursuant to Article 16, and in accordance with the conditions laid down in Articles 17 and 18. The Commission shall be required to provide an adequate**

explanation for any decision to set different thresholds for different citizens' initiatives.

Or. de

Amendment 173
Helmut Scholz, Bairbre de Brún

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 174
Mariya Nedelcheva, Anna Maria Corazza Bildt

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 sources of support and funding received**

for the citizens' initiative. Funding by political parties and European political groups shall not be permitted.

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 175

Martin Ehrenhauser

Proposal for a regulation

Article 10 – paragraph 2 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

The costs incurred by the organiser in complying with the admissibility criteria, including testing by independent auditors, and legal costs incurred in successfully challenging a decision to reject a citizens' initiative shall be reimbursed up to a maximum of EUR 50 000.

Or. de

Amendment 176

Martin Ehrenhauser

Proposal for a regulation

Article 10 – paragraph 3 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

The remit of and funding for the existing help centres in the Member States should be strengthened in such a way that members of the public and non-governmental organisations can obtain free of charge expert advice on the legal issues relating to European citizens'

initiatives.

Or. de

Amendment 177

**Andrew Duff, Cecilia Wikström, Guy Verhofstadt, Stanimir Ilchev, Diana Wallis,
Alexandra Thein**

Proposal for a regulation

Article 11 – paragraph 1 – point a a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

aa. receive the organisers at an appropriate level to allow them to explain in detail the matters raised by the initiative;

Or. en

Amendment 178

David Martin

Proposal for a regulation

Article 11 – paragraph 1 – point a a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

aa. receive the organisers at an appropriate level to allow them to explain in detail the matters raised by the initiative;

Or. en

Amendment 179

Anneli Jäätteenmäki

Proposal for a regulation

Article 11 – paragraph 1 – point a a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

aa. receive the organisers at an appropriate level to allow them to explain

in detail the matters raised by the initiative;

Or. en

Amendment 180
Morten Messerschmidt

Proposal for a regulation
Article 11 – paragraph 1 – point a a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

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;

Or. en

Amendment 181
Andrew Duff, Cecilia Wikström, Guy Verhofstadt, Diana Wallis, Stanimir Ilchev, Alexandra Thein

Proposal for a regulation
Article 11 – paragraph 1 – point a b (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

ab. consider the organisation of a public hearing on the subject-matter of the initiative, to which the European Parliament, through its responsible committee, may be invited to participate;

Or. en

Justification

The Commission should be empowered to hold a public hearing at its own discretion to improve communication with the citizen and enhance the credibility of the instrument. The Petitions Committee of the Parliament should normally participate in such hearings.

Amendment 182
Morten Messerschmidt

Proposal for a regulation
Article 11 – paragraph 1 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission

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

Amendment

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

Or. en

Amendment 183
Martin Ehrenhauser

Proposal for a regulation
Article 11 – paragraph 1 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission

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

Amendment

b. examine the citizens' initiative and, within **3 months**, set out **publicly** in a communication its **final legal and practical** conclusions on the initiative, the action it intends to take, **or its decision not to take any action**, and its reasons for doing so, **so that citizens can quickly and easily obtain the relevant information.**

Or. de

Amendment 184
Andrew Duff, Cecilia Wikström, Guy Verhofstadt, Stanimir Ilchev, Diana Wallis, Alexandra Thein

Proposal for a regulation
Article 11 – paragraph 1 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission

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

Amendment

b. within **three months**, set out in a communication its **legal and political** conclusions on the initiative, the action it intends to take, if any, and its reasons for doing **or not doing** so.

Or. en

Amendment 185
David Martin

Proposal for a regulation
Article 11 – paragraph 1 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission

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

Amendment

b. examine the citizens' initiative and, within **three months**, set out in a communication its **final legal and political** conclusions on the initiative, the action it intends to take, if any, and its reasons for doing **or not doing** so.

Or. en

Amendment 186
Anneli Jäätteenmäki

Proposal for a regulation
Article 11 – paragraph 1 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission

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

Amendment

b. within **three months**, set out in a communication its **legal and political** conclusions on the initiative, the action it intends to take, if any, and its reasons for doing **or not doing** so.

Or. en

Amendment 187
Andreas Mölzer

Proposal for a regulation
Article 11 – paragraph 1 – point b

Text proposed by the Commission

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

Amendment

b. examine the citizens' initiative and, within **3** months, set out in a communication its conclusions on the initiative, the action it intends to take, if any, and its reasons for doing so.

Or. de

Amendment 188
Andreas Mölzer

Proposal for a regulation
Article 11 – paragraph 1 – point b a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

ba. if a citizens' initiative signed by more than one million Union citizens succeeds, submit a proposal for a Union legal act consistent with the subject-matter of the citizens' initiative.

Or. de

Amendment 189
Andrew Duff, Guy Verhofstadt, Cecilia Wikström, Stanimir Ilchev, Diana Wallis, Alexandra Thein

Proposal for a regulation
Article 11 – paragraph 1 – point b a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

ba. present a legislative proposal within one year or include the proposal in its next year's Work Programme. If the Commission does not so act it shall give the organisers as well as the European

Parliament a detailed explanation.

Or. en

Justification

It is prudent to apply the same procedure with respect to the Commission's follow-up of a citizens' initiative as is applied in the Framework Agreement with respect to Parliamentary initiatives under Article 225 TFEU.

Amendment 190
Roberto Gualtieri

Proposal for a regulation
Article 11 – paragraph 2 – subparagraph 1 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

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

Amendment 191
David Martin

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

Amendment 192
Paulo Rangel

Proposal for a regulation
Article 11 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

Article 11a

Deadline for submission of a proposal by the Commission

Where, under the examination procedure provided for in Article 11, the Commission decides to submit a legislative proposal, it shall, save in duly substantiated cases, do so within twelve months.

Or. pt

Justification

Setting a twelve-month deadline for the Commission to submit a proposal will afford the EU institutions greater credibility and provide clear evidence of the fact that they consider this mechanism to be an effective means of involving citizens in the European project. Provision is made for the Commission duly to provide justification should it fail to meet the deadline.

Amendment 193
Andreas Mölzer

Proposal for a regulation
Article 12 – paragraph 3

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

The organiser shall destroy all statements of support received for a given citizens'

The organising committee shall destroy all statements of support received for a given

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.

citizens' initiative and any copies thereof at the latest *two months* after publication of the European Commission's communication in accordance with Article 10 or 18 months after the date of registration of a proposed citizens' initiative, whichever is the earlier.

Or. de

Amendment 194
Anneli Jäätteenmäki

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, *save where such amendment would involve the addition of further personal data relating to signatories.*

Or. en

Amendment 195
Helmut Scholz, Bairbre de Brún

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 196

Mariya Nedelcheva, Anna Maria Corazza Bildt

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:

– *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 197

Mariya Nedelcheva, Anna Maria Corazza Bildt

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 198
Carlo Casini, Adrian Severin, Potito Salatto

Proposal for a regulation
Article 22 – paragraph 1 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

It shall start to apply twelve months after its entry into force.

Or. it

Amendment 199
Helmut Scholz, Bairbre de Brún

Proposal for a regulation
Annex I

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

Minimum number of signatories per Member State

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

Austria **14250**

Austria **1900**

Belgium **16500**

Belgium **2200**

Bulgaria **13500**

Bulgaria **1800**

Cyprus **4500**

Cyprus **600**

Czech Republic **16500**

Czech Republic **2200**

Denmark **9750**

Denmark **1300**

Estonia **4500**

Estonia **600**

Finland **9750**

Finland **1300**

France **55500**

France **7400**

Germany **72000**

Germany **9600**

Greece **16500**

Greece **2200**

Hungary **16500**

Hungary **2200**

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**

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 200
Martin Ehrenhauser

Proposal for a regulation
Annex I

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

Minimum number of signatories per
 Member State

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

Austria **7470**
 Belgium **9630**
 Bulgaria **6840**
 Cyprus **702**
 Czech republic **9450**
 Denmark **4860**
 Estonia **1170**
 Finland **4770**
 France 55500

Germany	72000	Germany	72000
Greece	16500	Greece	9990
Hungary	16500	Hungary	9000
Ireland	9000	Ireland	3870
Italy	54750	Italy	54750
Latvia	6750	Latvia	1980
Lithuania	9000	Lithuania	2970
Luxembourg	4500	Luxembourg	1000
Malta	4500	Malta	1000
The Netherlands	19500	The Netherlands	9540
Poland	38250	Poland	34290
Portugal	16500	Portugal	9540
Romania	24750	Romania	19350
Slovakia	9750	Slovakia	4950
Slovenia	6000	Slovenia	1800
Spain	40500	Spain	40500
Sweden	15000	Sweden	8280
United Kingdom	54750	United Kingdom	54750

Or. de

Amendment 201
Lena Kolarska-Bobińska

Proposal for a regulation
Annex II – paragraph 1 a (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 202
Mariya Nedelcheva, Anna Maria Corazza Bildt

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:

Or. en

Amendment 203
Helmut Scholz, Bairbre de Brún

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

1. Name of signatory:

First name*:.....Family name*:

2. Address:

Street:

Postcode: City*:

3. E-mail address:*[I]*

citizens' initiative once.*

Date *and* signature of the signatory* ♦:

Date *of* signature

Signature of the signatory* ♦:[2]

[1] Email address to be provided by on-line signatories

[2] Signature not required for online signatories

Or. en

Amendment 204
Paul Rübige

Proposal for a regulation
Annex VIII – point 6 a (new)

Text proposed by the Commission

Amendment

6a. All sources of funding and support for the initiative, including the amount of financial support at the time of submission.

Or. de