



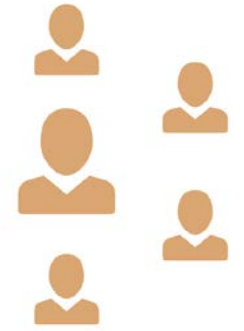
# Introduction

## to the Commission's procedure for the European Citizens' Initiative

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*8<sup>th</sup> meeting of the EU Platform on animal welfare  
3 November 2020*

# European citizens' initiatives (ECI)



- The ECI is an instrument to enhance the democratic functioning of the EU.
- Through an ECI citizens may bring certain issues to the attention of the institutions of the EU.
- It has to follow the procedure laid down in Regulation (EU) 2019/788.

# Procedural steps for an ECI

- Preparation Phase; Registration Phase
- Collection phase: **collection of statements of support** (signatures) for the ECI.
- Verification phase: validation of the **eligibility of the signatures**.
- Examination phase: examination of the content/ the objectives of the ECI by the European Commission aiming at the **preparation of its formal response** in the form of a Communication.

# ECI examination phase: milestones (1)

- **Submission of the initiative** to the European Commission, validation by the Commission and **publication in the ECI public register**
  - [https://europa.eu/citizens-initiative/initiatives/details/2018/000004\\_en](https://europa.eu/citizens-initiative/initiatives/details/2018/000004_en)
- **Transmission of the initiative** to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee, the Committee of the Region and to national parliaments
- **Meeting** between the Organisers and the Commission
  - Within one month after publication in the register
  - Explain in detail the objectives of the initiative

# ECI examination phase: milestones (2)

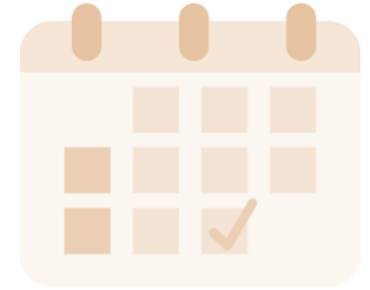
- **Public hearing** at the European Parliament
  - Within three months after publication in the register
  - Presentation of the initiative by the organisers
- **Adoption** of the Communication by the College of Commissioners
  - Within six months after publication in the register
- **Notification of the Communication** to the European Parliament and the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions; **Information to signatories** on the Commission's answer.

# Communication

Within six months after submission of the signatures:

The Commission will reply to the organizers

- by way of a **communication** (adopted by the college)
- setting out its **legal and political conclusions** on the initiative,
- the **action** it intends to take, if any,
- and its **reasons** for taking or not taking action.
- Where actions are intended, also an indication of an envisaged **timeline**.



# ECI 'End the Cage Age' Examination Phase Main Steps

Submission of signatures  
to the Commission  
02/10/2020

Meeting with organisers  
30/10/2020

Public hearing in EP  
+/- 12/2020 - 01/2021

Adoption Communication  
by 02/04/2021

# Thank you!



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