



## Proposals from Austria, Germany and Luxembourg to improve the ECI

# Agenda

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- ECI Review period
  
- AT-DE-LU Proposals
  1. Review the ECI timeline
  2. Review (EU) 1179/2011
  3. Offer free centralised hosting
  4. Develop synergies with eIDAS
  
- Further suggestions

# Review period

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- European Ombudsman's own-initiative inquiry (4 March 2015)
- European Commission's application report (31 March 2015)
- Latvian Presidency of the Council note (4 June 2015)
- Committee of Regions' opinion (13 October 2015)
- European Parliament's resolution (28 October 2015)
- ...

+ Lots of legal studies, PhD thesis, NGOs publications, etc.

Input from Member States and National authorities ?

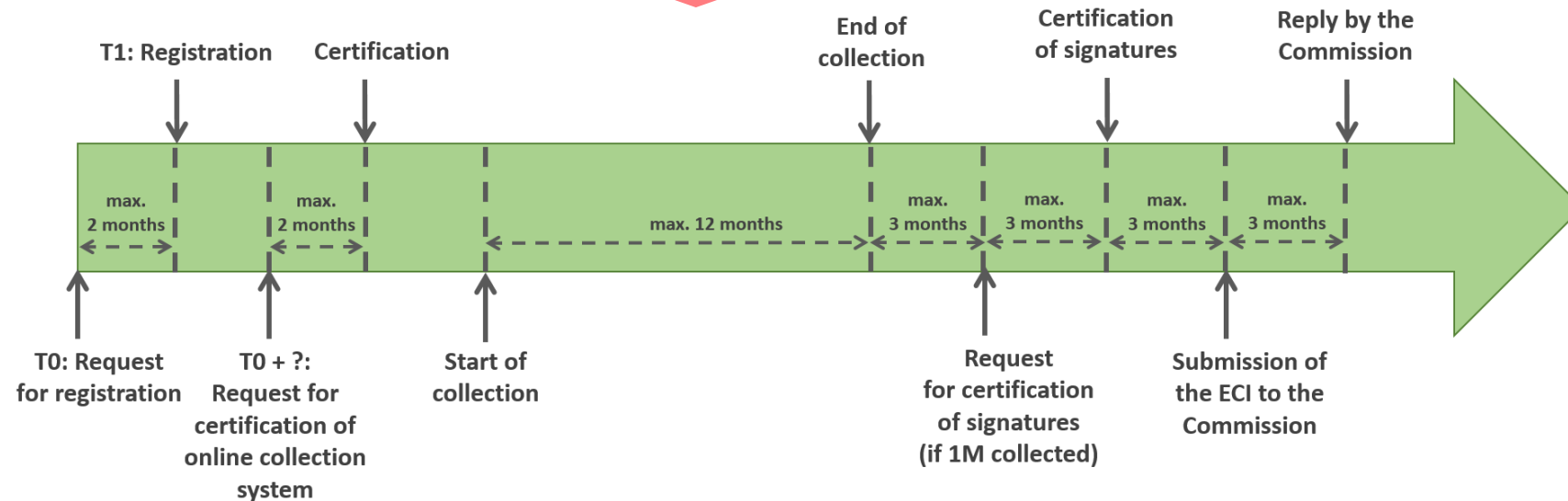
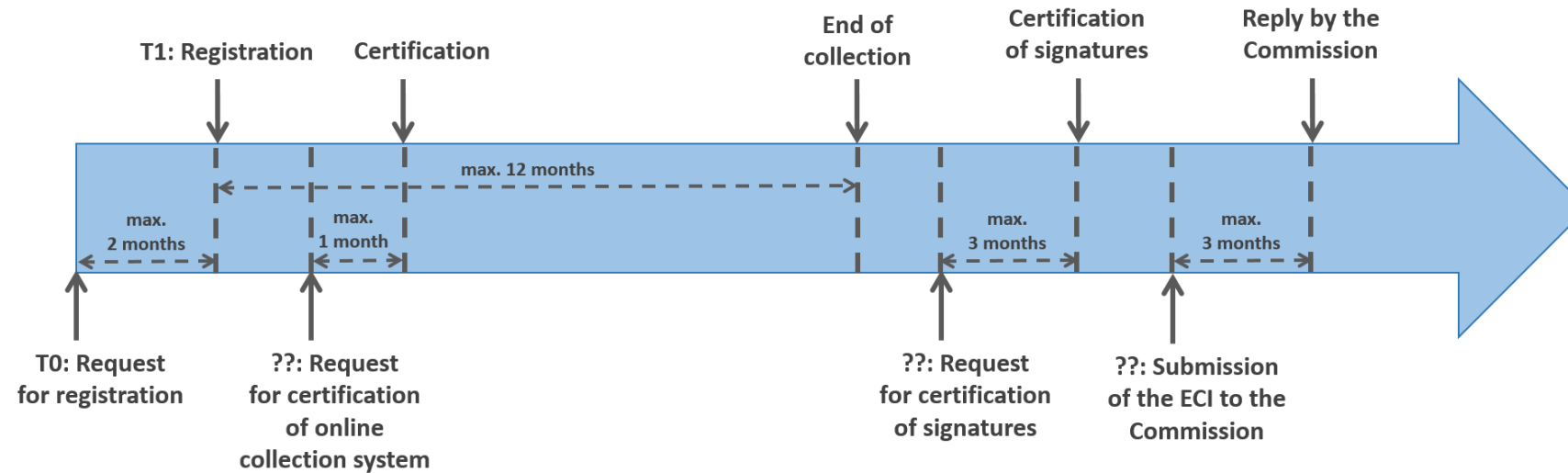
# Review period

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At the last ECI Expert group the Commission invited Member States to suggest possible improvements to the functioning of the ECI:

- 19/08/2015: Proposals from [Luxembourg](#)
- 24/08/2015: Proposals from [Austria](#)
- 05/10/2015: Proposals from [Germany](#)
- 07/12/2015: Common position paper [AT-DE-LU](#)

# Proposal 1 : Review the ECI timeline



# Proposal 1 : Review the timeline of an ECI

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- Organisers should choose the starting date for the collection period (within a certain timeframe).
- An extension of the collection period (from 12 to 18 months) months may be considered.
- The certification period for national certification authorities should be extended (from 1 to 2 months).
- Certification should be conditioned to prior registration by the Commission.
- National verification authorities should not have to verify statements of support of unsuccessful ECIs (less than 1 million SoS collected).
- Add a deadline for the submission of the statements of support to National verification authorities for verification (3 months).
- Add a deadline for the submission of a successful ECI to the Commission (3 months).

# Proposal 2 : Review (EU) 1179/2011

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Implementing Regulation (EU) No 1179/2011 laying down technical specifications for online collection systems should be taken into consideration for the review:

- Allow alternative approaches to the formal ISO/IEC 27k and SoGP while keeping a high level of security
- Review requirements on version and patch management
- Use a risk-based approach instead of detailed requirements

**Make ECIs easier for organisers and hosting entities**

# Proposal 3 : Offer free centralised hosting

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- For organisers:
  - ✓ free
  - ✓ no need of IT/security experts
- Findings of Commission's ICT study :
  - ✓ most overall cost effective approach
  - ✓ satisfaction of organisers with EC hosting and support

**Let the organizers focus on their campaign**



CHAMBRE DES DÉPUTÉS  
DU GRAND-DUCHÉ DE LUXEMBOURG

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# Proposal 4 : Develop synergies with eIDAS

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Regulation (EU) No 910/2014 on electronic identification and trust services (“eIDAS Regulation”) can greatly support ECIs:

- eIDAS regulation covers both online authentication and electronic signature
- at EU level: some tools already exist (TSL, DS-DSS, ECAS)
- at national level: more than 20 Member States have been deploying national e-ID means
- let's not reinvent a (broken) wheel...



# Further suggestions

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Other measures could improve the ECI without requiring changes in the legal framework:

- Enhance public awareness about the ECI tool through communication campaigns by the Commission.
- Enhance public awareness regarding topics of ECIs which do not reach the required amount of support in order to foster the commitment of civil society for EU matters.
- Offer legal support and technical advice to organisers, yet respecting the character of the ECI as an independent instrument of civic participation.

# Thank you

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## Any questions ?