

How should the new European citizens' initiative work?

- **Czech Social Democratic Party (ČSSD)** considers the Treaty of Lisbon to be a very important instrument for strengthening democratic governance in Europe.
- We support the participatory democracy and its new forms of interaction between citizens and the European institutions as it is laid down in the Treaty of Lisbon.
- Therefore we would like to participate in the public consultation of the European Commission and present our ideas how the citizens' initiative could be operational:
 1. Minimum number of EU countries signatories must come from – **5 Member States of the European Union**
 2. Minimum age of signatories – **every citizen of the EU who is 13 years old**
 3. Rules on collecting – **to collect signatures can do every citizen of the EU who is 16 years old**
 4. **To be a member of the Petition Committee could be every citizen of the EU who is 18 years old**
 5. Form of the signature – **for the signature it is necessary to provide first name and surname, address of the place of the residence, date of birth** (to verify the age of the signatories) **and the signature**
 6. **It could be possible to sign the petition in an electronic form when complying with all the requirements for verifying and authenticating signatures.**
 7. **The content of the citizens' initiative must be in accordance with the Charter of the fundamental rights of the European Union and with the Constitutions and its Charters of every Member State of the European Union.**

For more information:

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