

Warming Up for the Citizens' Initiative

A conference hosted by
Commission Vice-President
Maroš Šefčovič



PROGRAMME



BRUSSELS
26 JANUARY 2012

9.00 – 9.30 *Registration and welcome coffee*

9.30 – 10.20 **INTRODUCTION**

9.30 – 10.00 **Getting ready for the ECI - Where the Commission stands in implementing the Regulation**

*Speech by **Maroš Šefčovič**, Vice-President of the European Commission*

10.00 – 10.20 **Getting off to a good start - the role of Member States in the successful launch of the ECI**

*Speech by **Nicolai Wammen**, Minister for European Affairs, Danish Presidency of the Council of the European Union*

10.20 – 11.00 **THE ECI IN PRACTICE**

10.20 – 10.50 **The ECI procedure step by step and demonstration of the Commission Register**

*by **Mário Tenreiro**, Head of Unit for General Institutional Issues, Secretariat-General, European Commission*

10.50 – 11.00 **The software for online collection**

*by **Declan Deasy**, Director for Information Systems and Interoperability Solutions, Directorate General for Informatics, European Commission*

11.00 – 11.20 *Coffee break*

11.20 – 12.30 **PANEL I: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ECI - PERSPECTIVES FROM MEMBER STATES AND CIVIL SOCIETY**

11.20 – 12.00 **Panel discussion**

*Moderator: **Jens Nymand-Christensen**, Director for Relations with the European Parliament, the Committees and for General Institutional Issues, Secretariat-General, European Commission*

*Panellists: **Staffan Nilsson**, President of the European Economic and Social Committee
Robert Stein, Head of Department of Electoral Affairs, Federal Ministry of the Interior, Republic of Austria
José Luis Viedma Lozano, Electoral Census Office, National Institute for Statistics, Ministry of Economy and Finance, Spain
Bruno Kaufmann, President, Initiative and Referendum Institute Europe*

12.00 – 12.30 **Questions from the floor and discussion**

12.30 – 14.00 **Buffet lunch**

13.10 **Social Media Tour**

13.30 **Press conference** with Maroš Šefčovič

14.00 – 15.30 **PANEL II: THE POTENTIAL FOR USING SOCIAL NETWORKS**

14.00 – 15.00 **Panel discussion**

Moderator: **Francisco García Morán**, *Director General for Informatics, European Commission*

Panellists: **Erika Mann**, *Managing Director for EU Affairs, Facebook*
Simon Hampton, *Director, Public Policy, Google*
Colin Crowell, *Head of Global Public Policy, Twitter*
Giuseppe de Martino, *Secretary General, Dailymotion*
Christophe Leclercq, *Co-Founder of Initiative.eu & Fondation EurActiv PoliTech*
Mark P. McDonald, *Vice-President, Gartner Group*

15.00 – 15.30 **Questions from the floor and discussion**

15.30 – 15.45 **Coffee break**

15.45 – 17.15 **PANEL III: THE FOLLOW-UP TO AN INITIATIVE**

15.45 – 16.45 **Panel discussion**

Moderator: **Maroš Šefčovič**, *Vice-President of the European Commission*

Panellists: **Alain Lamassoure**, *Member of the European Parliament*
Zita Gurmai, *Member of the European Parliament*
Diana Wallis, *Member of the European Parliament*
Gerald Häfner, *Member of the European Parliament*
Mercedes Bresso, *President of the Committee of the Regions*

16.45 – 17.15 **Questions from the floor and discussion**

17.15 – 17.30 **CLOSING REMARKS**

by **Maroš Šefčovič**, *Vice-President of the European Commission*

