



**Response to: GREEN PAPER
on a European Citizens' Initiative**

Questions:

Do you consider that one third of the total number of Member States would constitute a "significant number of Member States" as required by the Treaty? **YES**

If not, what threshold would you consider appropriate, and why?

Questions:

Do you consider that 0.2% of the total population of each Member State is an appropriate threshold? **YES**

If not, do you have other proposals in this regard in order to achieve

Questions:

Should the minimum age required to support a European citizens' initiative be linked to the voting age for the European Parliament elections in each Member State? **YES**

If not, what other option would you consider appropriate, and why?

Questions:

Would it be sufficient and appropriate to require that an initiative clearly state the subject matter and objectives of the proposal on which the Commission is invited to act? **YES**

What other requirements, if any, should be set out as to the form and wording of a citizens' initiative?

Questions:

Do you think that there should be a common set of procedural requirements for the collection, verification and authentication of signatures by Member States' authorities at EU level? **YES (Wide enough to allow defined variation across states)**

To what extent should Member States be able to put in place specific provisions at national level? **Provided they meet an agreed EU level standard**

Are specific procedures needed in order to ensure that EU citizens can support a citizens' initiative regardless of their country of residence? **YES. The Citizen should meet the criteria of verification of the country of residence**

Should citizens be able to support a citizens' initiative online? If so, what security and authentication features should be foreseen? **YES, if verification criteria can be included**

Questions:

Should a time limit for the collection of signatures be fixed? **YES**

If so, would you consider that one year would be an appropriate time-limit? **YES**

Questions:

Do you think that a mandatory system of registration of proposed initiatives is necessary? **YES**

If so, do you agree that this could be done through a specific website provided by the European Commission? **YES**

Questions:

What specific requirements should be imposed upon the organisers of an initiative in order to ensure transparency and democratic accountability? **Legally Registered either within states or at EU level**

Do you agree that organisers should be required to provide information on the support and funding that they have received for an initiative? **YES**

Questions:

Should a time limit be foreseen for the Commission to examine a citizens' initiative?

YES
6 months for ones not requiring detailed investigation
12 months for those requiring detailed investigation
Initiative mainly taken in date rotation, unless there is a clearly defined exceptions rule.

Questions:

Is it appropriate to introduce rules to prevent the successive presentation of citizens' initiatives on the same issue? **YES**

If so, would this best be done by introducing some sort of disincentives - or time limits?

YES Perhaps a time limit from date of EU decision e.g. 2 years

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