The European Citizens’ Initiative

First report on the application of Regulation (EU) No 211/2011 on the citizens' initiative

- Findings of the report
- Challenges identified
Findings of the report (1)

- 51 requests for registration:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Registered</th>
<th>Not registered</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Collection ongoing</td>
<td>Registration refused</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Withdrawn by its organisers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collection closed(^9)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closed initiatives without the required support(^10)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Submitted to the Commission – Commission's answer pending</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Answered by the Commission</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<p>| | | | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

31
Findings of the report (2)

Registration

- 31 registered initiatives
- Wide range of topics: e.g. environment, mobility, education, development cooperation, social issues
- 20 requests refused: manifestly outside the framework of Commission's powers
### Findings of the report (3)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Languages available</th>
<th>Registration date</th>
<th>Deadline for collection (24:00 CET)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>« On The Wire »</td>
<td>FR* DE EN ES IT</td>
<td>09/02/2015</td>
<td>09/02/2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For a socially fair Europe! Encouraging a stronger cooperation between EU Member States to fight poverty in Europe</td>
<td>FR* DE EN IT</td>
<td>19/12/2014</td>
<td>19/12/2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An end to front companies in order to secure a fairer Europe</td>
<td>FR* DE EN ES IT RO</td>
<td>01/10/2014</td>
<td>01/10/2015</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Findings of the report (4)

Citizens’ committees
Findings of the report (5)

Age

- > 80
- 71-80
- 61-70
- 51-60
- 41-50
- 31-40
- 21-30
- < 20

Bar chart showing the distribution of age groups.
Findings of the report (6)

Collection

- Data based on the three successful initiatives

- Overall 55% collected online:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Initiative</th>
<th>Statements of support collected on paper</th>
<th>Statements of support collected online</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Right2Water</td>
<td>Around 20%</td>
<td>Around 80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One of us</td>
<td>Around 70%</td>
<td>Around 30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stop vivisection</td>
<td>Around 40%</td>
<td>Around 60%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Findings of the report (7)

- Online collection:
  - 21 collected online
  - All used the software provided by the Commission
  - Server issues: all but 2 initiatives used the Commission's exceptional hosting offer
Findings of the report (8)

Verification of statements of support

- Overall almost 90% of the collected statements were found valid.

- Similar results for paper-based and online statements

- Random sampling used by 17 Member States
Findings of the report (9)

Submission and examination by Commission

• **Right2water:**
  - >1.65 M (thresholds reached in 13 countries)
  - 17 February 2014: Meeting with COM and Public Hearing in EP
  - 19 March 2014: Communication from the Commission

-> **positive answer:** COM proposed a series of follow-up actions

Findings of the report (10)

• One of us:
  • >1,72 M (thresholds reached in 18 countries)
  • 9-10 April 2014: Meeting with COM and Public Hearing in EP
  • 28 May 2014: Communication from the Commission

-> COM decided not to take action, considering that the existing legislative framework was the appropriate one.
Findings of the report (11)

- Stop vivisection:
  - >1,17 M (thresholds reached in 9 countries)
  Submitted to the Commission on 3 March 2015

[After the adoption of the report:
- 11 May: Meeting with COM and Public Hearing in EP
- 3 June: Communication from the Commission

-> COM proposed a series of follow-up actions]
Challenges identified (1)

- Lack of legal personality for citizens' committees
- Registration: almost 40% of initiatives could not be registered
- Requirements for signatories: varying from MS to MS - some citizens excluded
Challenges identified (2)

• Timeline:
  • Collection period (often less than 12 months due to the setting-up of the online collection system)
  • No time limit for the submission

• Translations

• Online collection: hosting issue, complex certification procedure, dissatisfaction with the Commission software, Member States uncomfortable with the possibility to certify systems before the initiative registration
  -> study
Challenges identified (3)

- Public hearings in the European Parliament: need to ensure that different views and perspectives are heard.
- Need for more interaction between organisers and the Commission