



# WELCOME!

## Webinar 'Get started with the ECI: a step-by-step introduction'

Host: Paola Zamboni, ECI Forum Coordinator

19 May



## Structure

1. European Citizens' Initiative (ECI) – An overview
2. Experiences from ECI organisers:
  - **Pavel Zálešák**, member of the ECI "Stop Destroying Videogames"
  - **Olga Kikou**, member of the ECI "Good Food For All" and former member of the ECI "End the Cage Age"
3. Q&A



## Interaction and Q&A

- Interface: Please turn off **your video** and **mute yourself** during the presentations.
- Language: English.
- How to interact and ask questions: You can use the chat to ask questions. They will be noted and picked up by the moderator.
- The Webinar will be recorded and uploaded on the European Citizens' Initiative Forum
- All participants will be asked to fill out a short survey at the end of the webinar.



# 1. The European Citizens' Initiative: an overview

## Article 11(4) of the Treaty on the European Union:

*Not less than one million citizens who are nationals of a significant number of Member States may take the initiative of inviting the European Commission, within the framework of its powers, to submit any appropriate proposal on matters where citizens consider that a legal act of the Union is required for the purpose of implementing the Treaties.*



The first supranational instrument of participatory democracy



It is your way as a citizen to have a say in policymaking at the EU: launch or sign



The goal is to reach **at least 1 million signatures**, including a minimum number in at least seven Member States, in 12 months



## Collecting signatures

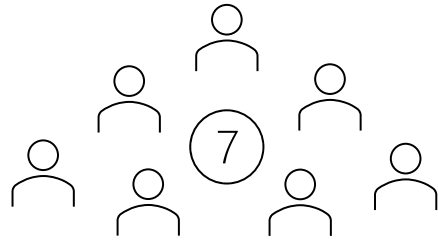


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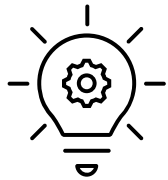


## Timeline for the organisers



Step 0: Consider if the ECI is the right way to promote your idea

Step 1: Form an Organiser Group composed of at least 7 EU citizens living in 7 different EU countries (and a legal entity – optional)

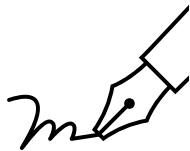


Step 2: Develop your initiative and ensure it is under the competences of the European Union

(Visit the ECI Forum for guidance)



Step 3: Register your initiative through the [organiser account](#) and state its objective(s), title and other administrative information



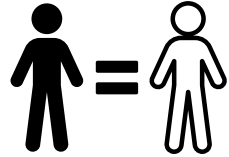
Step 4: Develop your campaign for signature collection



Justice, Freedom & Security



Consumer Protection



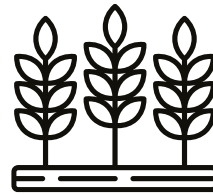
Non-discrimination & Citizenship



Public Health



Employment & Social Affairs



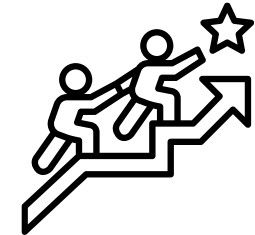
Agriculture & Fisheries



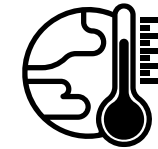
Education, Training, Youth & Sport



Energy



Humanitarian Aid, Development & Cooperation

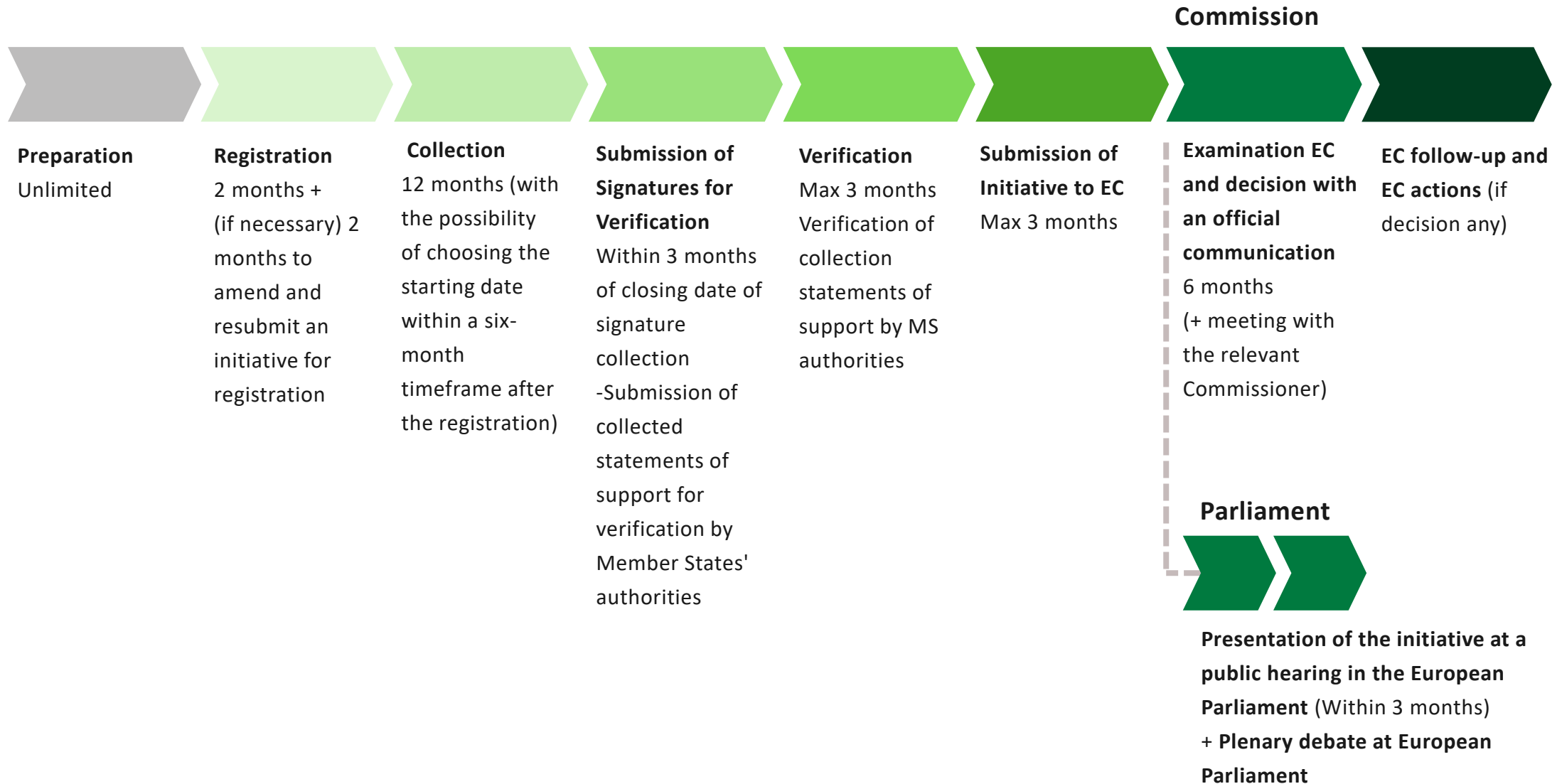


Environment & Climate Action

## Competences of the European Commission



## Timeline for the ECI





## Who can sign an ECI?



Organisers have 6 months from the date of registration of the initiative to decide when to begin the one-year collection of statements of support.



Must be an **EU citizen (nationals of EU Member States) AND old enough to vote in European Parliament elections** (age 18 or lower in some Member States)



UNLESS the Member State has decided to lower the minimum age for initiative signatories to 16 and has informed the European Commission

- Germany, Malta, Austria, Estonia, Belgium (16 years old)
- Greece (17 years old)



**All EU citizens** can sign an initiative regardless of where they live



Citizens can sign **only once** for an initiative



## What is the European Citizens' Initiative Forum?



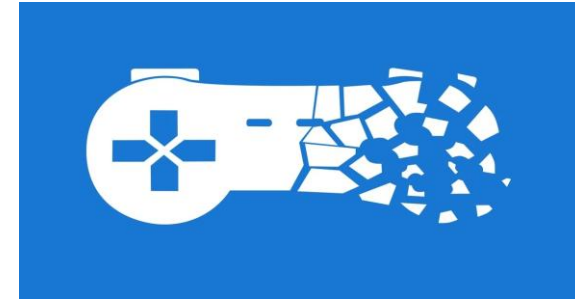
- The Forum supports organisers in the preparatory phase and during the collection of signatures of their initiative!
- An online collaborative platform (available in all 24 EU languages) that provides advice and information to initiative organisers *before, during and after* the process of launching and implementing an initiative



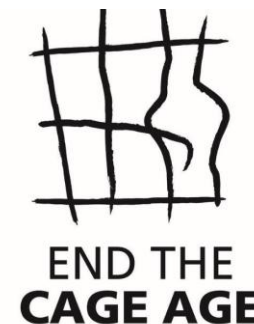


## 2. Experiences from ECI organisers

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# Useful resources

- To sign initiatives: [Sign or start a European citizens' initiative - European Citizens' Initiative](#)
- To explore the tools of the ECI Forum: [European Citizens' Initiative Forum](#)
- To subscribe to the ECI Newsletter: [Subscribe to newsletter | European Citizens' Initiative Forum](#)



**Thank  
you for  
your  
attention!**