



PROGRAMME

9.00 – 9.30 Registration and welcome coffee

9.30 – 9.45 Opening by **Henri MALOSSE**, president of the European Economic and Social Committee

9.45 – 11.00 State of play

Chair: **Anne-Marie SIGMUND**, president of the ECI ad hoc Group, European Economic and Social Committee

- **Emily O'REILLY**, European Ombudsman
- **Maroš ŠEFČOVIČ**, vice-president of the European Commission in charge of Inter-Institutional Relations and Administration (video-message)
- **Bruno KAUFMANN**, president of the Initiative and Referendum Institute Europe, ECI Support Centre
- **Carsten BERG**, director of The ECI Campaign

11.00 – 11.30 Coffee break

11.30 – 13.00 ECI Laboratories

LAB 1: ECI campaigning and e-democracy

Transnational campaigning with modern communication tools

What are the modern tools for transnational campaigning? How can online communication tools serve the purposes of ECIs? How can we reach out to target groups? How can existing communication tools be adapted to the needs of specific initiatives and communication patterns in the Member States?

Chair: **Carsten BERG**, director, The ECI Campaign

Rapporteur: **Jelena DRENJANIN**, member of the Committee of the Regions, Member of the Municipal Assembly of Huddinge

- **Daniel VAN LERBERGHE**, director of Social Media, EurActiv
- **Stanislas JOURDAN**, ECI Unconditional Basic Income
- **Xavier DUTOIT**, IT developer, Tech to the People, ECI Water is a Human Right
- **Paula HANNEMANN**, head of the international petition platform Change.org in Germany

Discussion

LAB 2: ECI and legal constraints

Legal aspects and challenges of the ECI today

What are the main legal challenges and constraints facing ECI legislation? How do they limit the possibilities of ECIs and how can the existing regulation be improved? Main issues covered: non-uniform registration forms, data protection and legal liability, translation and different national rules on the right to sign (e.g. residents).

Chair: **Assya KAVRAKOVA**, director of the European Citizen Action Service, ECI Support Centre

Rapporteur: **Bruno KAUFMANN**, president of the Initiative and Referendum Institute Europe, ECI Support Centre

- **Daniel BAKER** and **Joep WOLFHAGEN**, legal advisers, Freshfields
- **Christian D'CUNHA**, legal officer, Unit Policy & Consultation, The European Data Protection Supervisor
- **Professor Alexander PROSSER**, Vienna University of Economics and Business
- **Prisca MERZ**, director of the ECI End Ecocide in Europe

Discussion

LAB 3: ECI and political challenges

The ECI and its impact at political and institutional level in the EU

What is the impact of the ECI at political level? What principal changes are needed for this instrument to become a genuine citizens' initiative? What are the initiative's objectives and actual results? What is the next step following the completion of the ECI procedure? How can we continue the initiatives irrespective of whether current procedures are successful or not?

Chair: **Professor Johannes W. PICHLER**, University of Graz

Rapporteur: **Philippe CAYLA**, President of Euronews Development, ECI Let me vote

- **Alicja Magdalena HERBOWSKA**, administrator, Unit for Legislative Coordination, Directorate-General for Internal Policies of the Union, European Parliament
- **Professor Justin GREENWOOD**, Robert Gordon University and College of Europe
- **Antonio Jesus MELLADO ROSIQUE**, ECI One of Us
- **Iveta KAŽOKA**, policy researcher, Centre for Public Policy PROVIDUS and Policy Association for an Open Society (PASOS)

Discussion

13.00 – 14.30 Lunch break and networking opportunity

14.30 – 15.15 **Reporting from the ECI Labs and discussion**

Chair: **Anne-Marie SIGMUND**, president of the ECI ad hoc Group, European Economic and Social Committee

Presentation of the ECI Labs by the rapporteurs

- **Jelena DRENJANIN** on LAB 1: ECI and the e-democracy spectrum
- **Bruno KAUFMANN** on LAB 2: ECI and legal constraints
- **Philippe CAYLA** on LAB 3: ECI and political challenges

Discussion

15.15 – 16.30 **Looking ahead, ECI 2.0: the revision**

Chair: **Anne-Marie SIGMUND**, president of the ECI Ad hoc Group, European Economic and Social Committee

- **Elizabeth GOLBERG**, director, Directorate C – Smart Regulation and Work Programme, Secretariat General, European Commission
- **Gerald HÄFNER**, member of the European Parliament (live video link from Strasbourg)
- **Jerry VAN DEN BERGE**, policy officer for water, waste and European Works Councils, European Federation of Public Service Unions (EPSU), ECI Right2Water
- **Assya KAVRAKOVA**, director of the European Citizen Action Service, ECI Support Centre

Discussion

16.30 – 16.45 **Closing remarks** by **Ramón Luis VALCÁRCEL SISO**, president of the Committee of the Regions

Language regime:

Plenary sessions: you may speak in EN, FR, DE, ES, IT and listen in EN, FR and DE.

Laboratories: you may speak and listen in EN, FR and DE.