



The Commission's approach to impact assessments and consultations

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What is Better Regulation?

- ***Legislation/policy making that delivers objectives in an effective and efficient way***
- ***A method - common sense way of working throughout the policy cycle to foster:***
 - high-quality initiatives that are evidence-based; with no unnecessary burdens for business/public authorities
 - transparent participation of civil society;
 - initiatives that actually deliver as foreseen and remain fit for purpose.
- ***Not about weakening consumer protection, social or environmental standards or replacing political decisions.***



Main elements of the BR Package

- **Better regulation across entire policy cycle**
 - *Integrated Better Regulation Guidelines*
 - *Interinstitutional agreement Better Law making*
- **Greater transparency & involvement of stakeholders**
- **Better Tools**
 - *Improved guidance for IA, evaluation, consult. (integrated guidelines + Toolbox)*
- **Enhanced quality control in the Commission (RSB)**
- **Focus on quality of existing acquis/simplification**
 - *(Evaluation, REFIT, REFIT Platform, Lighten the Load)*





Better Regulation Guidelines and Tools





- **New integrated guidelines** set out minimum requirements (IA, evaluation consultation, etc.)
- **Toolbox** is like a cookbook or an encyclopaedia- i.e. **not** meant to be read from cover to cover but used only where guidance is needed
- **New Tools on:** e.g. impacts on consumers (#28), health (#27), fundamental rights (#24)



Consultation of civil society



WHEN – at all stages

From roadmaps, IAs to evaluations, to draft secondary rules and Commission proposals...





HOW– in different ways

More structured: Consultation guidelines, strategy, discussed in Inter Service Groups

More diverse: Open public (e.g. online 12 weeks) and targeted (e.g. focus groups)

More channels: On-line feed-back opportunities, Lighten the Load website, REFIT platform,...





WHAT – on different issues

*Example: Impact Assessment (IA) consultation
MUST cover:*

- the problem*
- subsidiarity and the EU dimension of the problem*
- policy options*
- economic, social and environmental impacts of the options*

Consultation results MUST be presented in the IA report



Conclusion

Common sense: those at the receiving end must be involved in formulating policies that will impact them

Evidence-based policy: No IA without evidence, no evidence without consultation

Input from civil society is not a "nice to have" but a MUST for better regulation, at different stages, in different forms and through different channels





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thank
you!

We look forward to
hearing from you

