This document is meant purely as a documentation tool and the institutions do not assume any liability for its contents

►B REGULATION (EU) No 211/2011 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL

of 16 February 2011

on the citizens' initiative

(OJ L 65, 11.3.2011, p. 1)

Amended by:

		Official Journal		
		No	page	date
►M1	Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 268/2012 of 25 January 2012	L 89	1	27.3.2012
►M2	Council Regulation (EU) No 517/2013 of 13 May 2013	L 158	1	10.6.2013
►M3	Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 887/2013 of 11 July 2013	L 247	11	18.9.2013
►M4	Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 531/2014 of 12 March 2014	L 148	52	20.5.2014

Corrected by:

►C1	Corrigendum, OJ L 235, 8.8.2014, p. 19 (887/2013)

▼B

REGULATION (EU) No 211/2011 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL

of 16 February 2011

on the citizens' initiative

THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and in particular the first paragraph of Article 24 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the European Commission,

After transmission of the draft legislative act to the national parliaments,

Having regard to the opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee ([1]),

Having regard to the opinion of the Committee of the Regions ([2]),

Acting in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure ([3]),

Whereas:

(1) The Treaty on European Union (TEU) reinforces citizenship of the Union and enhances further the democratic functioning of the Union by providing, inter alia, that every citizen is to have the right to participate in the democratic life of the Union by way of a European citizens' initiative. That procedure affords citizens the possibility of directly approaching the Commission with a request inviting it to submit a proposal for a legal act of the Union for the purpose of implementing the Treaties similar to the right conferred on the European Parliament under Article 225 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) and on the Council under Article 241 TFEU.

(2) The procedures and conditions required for the citizens' initiative should be clear, simple, user-friendly and proportionate to the nature of the citizens' initiative so as to encourage participation by citizens and to make the Union more accessible. They should strike a judicious balance between rights and obligations.

(3) They should also ensure that citizens of the Union are subject to similar conditions for supporting a citizens' initiative regardless of the Member State from which they come.

(4) The Commission should, upon request, provide citizens with information and informal advice about citizens' initiatives, notably as regards the registration criteria.

([1]) OJ C 44, 11.2.2011, p. 182.
([2]) OJ C 267, 1.10.2010, p. 57.
([3]) Position of the European Parliament of 15 December 2010 (not yet published in the Official Journal) and decision of the Council of 14 February 2011.

▼B

(5) It is necessary to establish the minimum number of Member States from which citizens must come. In order to ensure that a citizens' initiative is representative of a Union interest, while ensuring that the instrument remains easy to use, that number should be set at one quarter of Member States.

(6) For that purpose, it is also appropriate to establish the minimum number of signatories coming from each of those Member States. In order to ensure similar conditions for citizens to support a citizens' initiative, those minimum numbers should be degressively proportional. For the purpose of clarity, those minimum numbers should be set out for each Member State in an annex to this Regulation. The minimum number of signatories required in each Member State should correspond to the number of Members of the European Parliament elected in each Member State, multiplied by 750. The Commission should be empowered to amend that annex in order to reflect any modification in the composition of the European Parliament.

(7) It is appropriate to fix a minimum age for supporting a citizens' initiative. That should be set as the age at which citizens are entitled to vote in elections to the European Parliament.

(8) A minimum organised structure is needed in order to successfully carry through a citizens' initiative. That should take the form of a citizens' committee, composed of natural persons (organisers) coming from at least seven different Member States, in order to encourage the emergence of European-wide issues and to foster reflection on those issues. For the sake of transparency and smooth and efficient communication, the citizens' committee should designate representatives to liaise between the citizens' committee and the institutions of the Union throughout the procedure.

(9) Entities, notably organisations which under the Treaties contribute to forming European political awareness and to expressing the will of citizens of the Union, should be able to promote a citizens' initiative, provided that they do so with full transparency.

(10) In order to ensure coherence and transparency in relation to proposed citizens' initiatives and to avoid a situation where signatures are being collected for a proposed citizens' initiative which does not comply with the conditions laid down in this Regulation, it should be mandatory to register such initiatives on a website made available by the Commission prior to collecting the necessary statements of support from citizens. All proposed citizens' initiatives that comply with the conditions laid down in this Regulation should be registered by the Commission. The Commission should deal with registration in accordance with the general principles of good administration.

(11) Once a proposed citizens' initiative is registered, statements of support from citizens may be collected by the organisers.

▼B

(12) It is appropriate to set out the form for the statement of support in an annex to this Regulation, specifying the data required for the purposes of verification by the Member States. The Commission should be empowered to amend that annex in accordance with Article 290 TFEU, taking into account information forwarded to it by Member States.

(13) With due respect for the principle that personal data must be adequate, relevant and not excessive in relation to the purposes for which they are collected, the provision of personal data, including, where applicable, a personal identification number or a personal identification document number by signatories of a proposed citizens' initiative is required as far as may be necessary in order to allow for the verification of statements of support by Member States, in accordance with national law and practice.

(14) In order to put modern technology to good use as a tool of participatory democracy, it is appropriate to provide for statements of support to be collected online as well as in paper form. Online collection systems should have adequate security features in place in order to ensure, inter alia, that the data are securely collected and stored. For that purpose, the Commission should set out detailed technical specifications for online collection systems.

(15) It is appropriate for Member States to verify the conformity of online collection systems with the requirements of this Regulation before statements of support are collected.

(16) The Commission should make available an open-source software incorporating the relevant technical and security features necessary in order to comply with the provisions of this Regulation as regards online collection systems.

(17) It is appropriate to ensure that statements of support for a citizens' initiative are collected within a specific time limit. In order to ensure that proposed citizens' initiatives remain relevant, whilst taking account of the complexity of collecting statements of support across the Union, that time limit should not be longer than 12 months from the date of registration of the proposed citizens' initiative.

(18) It is appropriate to provide that, where a citizens' initiative has received the necessary statements of support from signatories, each Member State should be responsible for the verification and certification of statements of support collected from signatories coming from that Member State. Taking account of the need to limit the administrative burden for Member States, they should, within a period of three months from receipt of a request for certification, carry out such verifications on the basis of appropriate checks, which may be based on random sampling, and should issue a document certifying the number of valid statements of support received.

(19) Organisers should ensure that all the relevant conditions set out in this Regulation are met prior to submitting a citizens' initiative to the Commission.

▼B

(20) The Commission should examine a citizens' initiative and set out its legal and political conclusions separately. It should also set out the action it intends to take in response to it, within a period of three months. In order to demonstrate that a citizens' initiative supported by at least one million Union citizens and its possible follow-up are carefully examined, the Commission should explain in a clear, comprehensible and detailed manner the reasons for its intended action, and should likewise give its reasons if it does not intend to take any action. When the Commission has received a citizens' initiative supported by the requisite number of signatories which fulfils the other requirements of this Regulation, the organisers should be entitled to present that initiative at a public hearing at Union level.

(21) Directive 95/46/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 October 1995 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data ([1]) is fully applicable to the processing of personal data carried out in application of this Regulation. In this respect, for the sake of legal certainty, it is appropriate to clarify that the organisers of a citizens' initiative and the competent authorities of the Member States are the data controllers within the meaning of Directive 95/46/EC and to specify the maximum period within which the personal data collected for the purposes of a citizens' initiative may be retained. In their capacity as data controllers, organisers need to take all the appropriate measures to comply with the obligations imposed by Directive 95/46/EC, in particular those relating to the lawfulness of the processing, the security of the processing activities, the provision of information and the rights of data subjects to have access to their personal data, as well as to procure the correction and erasure of their personal data.

(22) The provisions of Chapter III of Directive 95/46/EC on judicial remedies, liability and sanctions are fully applicable as regards the data processing carried out in application of this Regulation. Organisers of a citizens' initiative should be liable in accordance with applicable national law for any damage that they cause. In addition, Member States should ensure that organisers are subject to appropriate penalties for infringements of this Regulation.

(23) Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2000 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by the Community institutions and bodies and on the free movement of such data ([2]) is fully applicable to the processing of personal data carried out by the Commission in application of this Regulation.

([1]) OJ L 281, 23.11.1995, p. 31.
([2]) OJ L 8, 12.1.2001, p. 1.

▼B

(24) In order to address future adaptation needs, the Commission should be empowered to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 290 TFEU for the purpose of amending the Annexes to this Regulation. It is of particular importance that the Commission carry out appropriate consultations during its preparatory work, including at expert level.

(25) The measures necessary for the implementation of this Regulation should be adopted in accordance with Council Decision 1999/468/EC of 28 June 1999 laying down the procedures for the exercise of implementing powers conferred on the Commission ([1]).

(26) This Regulation respects fundamental rights and observes the principles enshrined in the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, in particular Article 8 thereof, which states that everyone has the right to the protection of personal data concerning him or her.

(27) The European Data Protection Supervisor was consulted and adopted an opinion ([2]),

HAVE ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Subject matter

This Regulation establishes the procedures and conditions required for a citizens' initiative as provided for in Article 11 TEU and Article 24 TFEU.

Article 2

Definitions

For the purpose of this Regulation the following definitions shall apply:

1. 'citizens' initiative' means an initiative submitted to the Commission in accordance with this Regulation, inviting the 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, which has received the support of at least one million eligible signatories coming from at least one quarter of all Member States;

([1]) OJ L 184, 17.7.1999, p. 23.
([2]) OJ C 323, 30.11.2010, p. 1.

▼B

2. ‘signatories’ means citizens of the Union who have supported a given citizens’ initiative by completing a statement of support form for that initiative;

3. ‘organisers’ means natural persons forming a citizens’ committee responsible for the preparation of a citizens’ initiative and its submission to the Commission.

Article 3

Requirements for organisers and for signatories

1. The organisers shall be citizens of the Union and be of the age to be entitled to vote in elections to the European Parliament.

2. The organisers shall form a citizens’ committee of at least seven persons who are residents of at least seven different Member States.

The organisers shall designate one representative and one substitute (‘the contact persons’), who shall liaise between the citizens’ committee and the institutions of the Union throughout the procedure and who shall be mandated to speak and act on behalf of the citizens’ committee.

Organisers who are Members of the European Parliament shall not be counted for the purposes of reaching the minimum number required to form a citizens’ committee.

For the purpose of registering a proposed citizens’ initiative in accordance with Article 4, only the information concerning the seven members of the citizens’ committee who are needed in order to comply with the requirements laid down in paragraph 1 of this Article and in this paragraph shall be considered by the Commission.

3. The Commission may request the organisers to provide appropriate proof that the requirements laid down in paragraphs 1 and 2 are fulfilled.

4. In order to be eligible to support a proposed citizens’ initiative, signatories shall be citizens of the Union and shall be of the age to be entitled to vote in elections to the European Parliament.

Article 4

Registration of a proposed citizens’ initiative

1. Prior to initiating the collection of statements of support from signatories for a proposed citizens’ initiative, the organisers shall be required to register it with the Commission, providing the information set out in Annex II, in particular on the subject matter and objectives of the proposed citizens’ initiative.

That information shall be provided in one of the official languages of the Union, in an online register made available for that purpose by the Commission (‘the register’).

▼B

The organisers shall provide, for the register and where appropriate on their website, regularly updated information on the sources of support and funding for the proposed citizens' initiative.

After the registration is confirmed in accordance with paragraph 2, the organisers may provide the proposed citizens' initiative in other official languages of the Union for inclusion in the register. The translation of the proposed citizens' initiative into other official languages of the Union shall be the responsibility of the organisers.

The Commission shall establish a point of contact which provides information and assistance.

2. Within two months from the receipt of the information set out in Annex II, the Commission shall register a proposed citizens' initiative under a unique registration number and send a confirmation to the organisers, provided that the following conditions are fulfilled:

(a) the citizens' committee has been formed and the contact persons have been designated in accordance with Article 3(2);

(b) the proposed citizens' initiative does not manifestly fall outside the framework of the Commission's powers to submit a proposal for a legal act of the Union for the purpose of implementing the Treaties;

(c) the proposed citizens' initiative is not manifestly abusive, frivolous or vexatious; and

(d) the proposed citizens' initiative is not manifestly contrary to the values of the Union as set out in Article 2 TEU.

3. The Commission shall refuse the registration if the conditions laid down in paragraph 2 are not met.

Where it refuses to register a proposed citizens' initiative, the Commission shall inform the organisers of the reasons for such refusal and of all possible judicial and extrajudicial remedies available to them.

4. A proposed citizens' initiative that has been registered shall be made public in the register. Without prejudice to their rights under Regulation (EC) No 45/2001, data subjects shall be entitled to request the removal of their personal data from the register after the expiry of a period of two years from the date of registration of a proposed citizens' initiative.

5. At any time before the submission of statements of support in accordance with Article 8, the organisers may withdraw a proposed citizens' initiative that has been registered. In that case, an indication to that effect shall be entered in the register.

Article 5

Procedures and conditions for the collection of statements of support

1. The organisers shall be responsible for the collection of the statements of support from signatories for a proposed citizens' initiative which has been registered in accordance with Article 4.

▼B

Only forms which comply with the models set out in Annex III and which are in one of the language versions included in the register for that proposed citizens' initiative may be used for the collection of statements of support. The organisers shall complete the forms as indicated in Annex III prior to initiating the collection of statements of support from signatories. The information given in the forms shall correspond to the information contained in the register.

2. The organisers may collect statements of support in paper form or electronically. Where statements of support are collected online, Article 6 shall apply.

For the purpose of this Regulation, statements of support which are electronically signed using an advanced electronic signature, within the meaning of Directive 1999/93/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 December 1999 on a Community framework for electronic signatures ([1]), shall be treated in the same way as statements of support in paper form.

3. Signatories shall be required to complete statement of support forms made available by the organisers. They shall indicate only the personal data that are required for the purposes of verification by the Member States, as set out in Annex III.

Signatories may only support a given proposed citizens' initiative once.

4. Member States shall forward to the Commission any changes to the information set out in Annex III. Taking into account those changes, the Commission may adopt, by means of delegated acts, in accordance with Article 17 and subject to the conditions of Articles 18 and 19, amendments to Annex III.

5. All statements of support shall be collected after the date of registration of the proposed citizens' initiative and within a period not exceeding 12 months.

At the end of that period, the register shall indicate that the period has expired and, where appropriate, that the required number of statements of support was not collected.

Article 6

Online collection systems

1. Where statements of support are collected online, the data obtained through the online collection system shall be stored in the territory of a Member State.

The online collection system shall be certified in accordance with paragraph 3 in the Member State in which the data collected through the online collection system will be stored. The organisers may use one online collection system for the purpose of collecting statements of support in several or all Member States.

([1]) OJ L 13, 19.1.2000, p. 12.

▼B

The models for the statement of support forms may be adapted for the purpose of the online collection.

2. The organisers shall ensure that the online collection system used for the collection of statements of support complies with paragraph 4.

Prior to initiating the collection of statements of support, the organisers shall request the competent authority of the relevant Member State to certify that the online collection system used for that purpose complies with paragraph 4.

The organisers may only start collecting statements of support through the online collection system once they have obtained the certificate referred to in paragraph 3. The organisers shall make a copy of that certificate publicly available on the website used for the online collection system.

By 1 January 2012, the Commission shall set up and thereafter shall maintain open-source software incorporating the relevant technical and security features necessary for compliance with the provisions of this Regulation regarding the online collection systems. The software shall be made available free of charge.

3. Where the online collection system complies with paragraph 4, the relevant competent authority shall within one month issue a certificate to that effect in accordance with the model set out in Annex IV.

Member States shall recognise the certificates issued by the competent authorities of other Member States.

4. Online collection systems shall have adequate security and technical features in place in order to ensure that:

(a) only natural persons may submit a statement of support form online;

(b) the data provided online are securely collected and stored, in order to ensure, inter alia, that they may not be modified or used for any purpose other than their indicated support of the given citizens' initiative and to protect personal data against accidental or unlawful destruction or accidental loss, alteration or unauthorised disclosure or access;

(c) the system can generate statements of support in a form complying with the models set out in Annex III, in order to allow for the verification by the Member States in accordance with Article 8(2).

5. By 1 January 2012, the Commission shall adopt technical specifications for the implementation of paragraph 4, in accordance with the regulatory procedure referred to in Article 20(2).

▼B

Article 7

Minimum number of signatories per Member State

1. The signatories of a citizens' initiative shall come from at least one quarter of Member States.

2. In at least one quarter of Member States, signatories shall comprise at least the minimum number of citizens set out, at the time of registration of the proposed citizens' initiative, in Annex I. Those minimum numbers shall correspond to the number of the Members of the European Parliament elected in each Member State, multiplied by 750.

3. The Commission shall adopt, by means of delegated acts, in accordance with Article 17 and subject to the conditions of Articles 18 and 19, appropriate adjustments to Annex I in order to reflect any modification in the composition of the European Parliament.

4. Signatories shall be considered as coming from the Member State which is responsible for the verification of their statement of support in accordance with the second subparagraph of Article 8(1).

Article 8

Verification and certification by Member States of statements of support

1. After collecting the necessary statements of support from signatories in accordance with Articles 5 and 7, the organisers shall submit the statements of support, in paper or electronic form, to the relevant competent authorities referred to in Article 15 for verification and certification. For that purpose the organisers shall use the form set out in Annex V and shall separate those statements of support collected in paper form, those which were electronically signed using an advanced electronic signature and those collected through an online collection system.

The organisers shall submit statements of support to the relevant Member State as follows:

(a) to the Member State of residence or of nationality of the signatory, as specified in point 1 of Part C of Annex III, or

(b) to the Member State that issued the personal identification number or the personal identification document indicated in the statement of support, as specified in point 2 of Part C of Annex III.

2. The competent authorities shall, within a period not exceeding three months from receipt of the request, verify the statements of support submitted on the basis of appropriate checks, in accordance with national law and practice, as appropriate. On that basis they shall deliver to the organisers a certificate in accordance with the model set out in Annex VI, certifying the number of valid statements of support for the Member State concerned.

For the purpose of the verification of statements of support, the authentication of signatures shall not be required.

▼B

3. The certificate provided for in paragraph 2 shall be issued free of charge.

Article 9

Submission of a citizens' initiative to the Commission

After obtaining the certificates provided for in Article 8(2), and provided that all relevant procedures and conditions set out in this Regulation have been complied with, the organisers may submit the citizens' initiative to the Commission, accompanied by information regarding any support and funding received for that initiative. That information shall be published in the register.

The amount of support and funding received from any source in excess of which information is to be provided shall be identical to that set out in Regulation (EC) No 2004/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 4 November 2003 on the regulations governing political parties at European level and the rules regarding their funding [1].

For the purpose of this Article, the organisers shall make use of the form set out in Annex VII and shall submit the completed form together with copies, in paper or electronic form, of the certificates provided for in Article 8(2).

Article 10

Procedure for the examination of a citizens' initiative by the Commission

1. Where the Commission receives a citizens' initiative in accordance with Article 9 it shall:

(a) publish the citizens' initiative without delay in the register;

(b) receive the organisers at an appropriate level to allow them to explain in detail the matters raised by the citizens' initiative;

(c) within three months, set out in a communication its legal and political conclusions on the citizens' initiative, the action it intends to take, if any, and its reasons for taking or not taking that action.

2. The communication referred to in paragraph 1(c) shall be notified to the organisers as well as to the European Parliament and the Council and shall be made public.

Article 11

Public hearing

Where the conditions of Article 10(1)(a) and (b) are fulfilled, and within the deadline laid down in Article 10(1)(c), the organisers shall be given the opportunity to present the citizens' initiative at a public hearing. The Commission and the European Parliament shall ensure that this hearing is organised at the European Parliament, if appropriate together with such other institutions and bodies of the Union as may wish to participate, and that the Commission is represented at an appropriate level.

[1] OJ L 297, 15.11.2003, p. 1.

▼B

Article 12

Protection of personal data

1. In processing personal data pursuant to this Regulation, the organisers of a citizens' initiative and the competent authorities of the Member State shall comply with Directive 95/46/EC and the national provisions adopted pursuant thereto.

2. For the purposes of their respective processing of personal data, the organisers of a citizens' initiative and the competent authorities designated in accordance with Article 15(2) shall be considered as data controllers in accordance with Article 2(d) of Directive 95/46/EC.

3. The organisers shall ensure that personal data collected for a given citizen's initiative are not used for any purpose other than their indicated support for that initiative, and shall destroy all statements of support received for that initiative and any copies thereof at the latest one month after submitting that initiative to the Commission in accordance with Article 9 or 18 months after the date of registration of the proposed citizens' initiative, whichever is the earlier.

4. The competent authority shall use the personal data it receives for a given citizens' initiative only for the purpose of verifying the statements of support in accordance with Article 8(2), and shall destroy all statements of support and copies thereof at the latest one month after issuing the certificate referred to in that Article.

5. Statements of support for a given citizens' initiative and copies thereof may be retained beyond the time limits laid down in paragraphs 3 and 4 if necessary for the purpose of legal or administrative proceedings relating to a proposed citizen's initiative. The organisers and the competent authority shall destroy all statements of support and copies thereof at the latest one week after the date of conclusion of the said proceedings by a final decision.

6. The organisers shall implement appropriate technical and organisational measures to protect personal data against accidental or unlawful destruction or accidental loss, alteration, unauthorised disclosure or access, in particular where the processing involves the transmission of data over a network, and against all other unlawful forms of processing.

Article 13

Liability

Organisers shall be liable for any damage they cause in the organisation of a citizens' initiative in accordance with applicable national law.

▼B

Article 14

Penalties

1. Member States shall ensure that organisers are subject to appropriate penalties for infringements of this Regulation and in particular for:

(a) false declarations made by organisers;

(b) the fraudulent use of data.

2. The penalties referred to in paragraph 1 shall be effective, proportionate and dissuasive.

Article 15

Competent authorities within the Member States

1. For the purpose of the implementation of Article 6(3), Member States shall designate competent authorities responsible for issuing the certificate provided for therein.

2. For the purpose of the implementation of Article 8(2), each Member State shall designate one competent authority responsible for coordinating the process of verification of statements of support and for delivering the certificates provided for therein.

3. Not later than 1 March 2012, Member States shall forward the names and addresses of the competent authorities to the Commission.

4. The Commission shall make the list of competent authorities publicly available.

Article 16

Amendment of the Annexes

The Commission may adopt, by means of delegated acts in accordance with Article 17 and subject to the conditions of Articles 18 and 19, amendments to the Annexes to this Regulation within the scope of the relevant provisions of this Regulation.

Article 17

Exercise of the delegation

1. The power to adopt the delegated acts referred to in Article 16 shall be conferred on the Commission for an indeterminate period of time.

2. As soon as it adopts a delegated act, the Commission shall notify it simultaneously to the European Parliament and to the Council.

3. The power to adopt delegated acts is conferred on the Commission subject to the conditions laid down in Articles 18 and 19.

▼B

Article 18

Revocation of the delegation

1. The delegation of power referred to in Article 16 may be revoked at any time by the European Parliament or by the Council.

2. The institution which has commenced an internal procedure for deciding whether to revoke the delegation of power shall endeavour to inform the other institution and the Commission within a reasonable time before the final decision is taken, indicating the delegated powers which could be subject to revocation and possible reasons for a revocation.

3. The decision of revocation shall put an end to the delegation of the powers specified in that decision. It shall take effect immediately or at a later date specified therein. It shall not affect the validity of the delegated acts already in force. It shall be published in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

Article 19

Objections to delegated acts

1. The European Parliament or the Council may object to the delegated act within a period of two months from the date of notification. At the initiative of the European Parliament or the Council this period shall be extended by two months.

2. If, on expiry of the period referred to in paragraph 1, neither the European Parliament nor the Council has objected to the delegated act it shall be published in the *Official Journal of the European Union* and shall enter into force on the date stated therein.

The delegated act may be published in the *Official Journal of the European Union* and enter into force before the expiry of that period if the European Parliament and the Council have both informed the Commission of their intention not to raise objections.

3. If either the European Parliament or the Council objects to a delegated act within the period referred to in paragraph 1, it shall not enter into force. The institution which objects shall state the reasons for objecting to the delegated act.

Article 20

Committee

1. For the purpose of the implementation of Article 6(5), the Commission shall be assisted by a committee.

▼B

2. Where reference is made to this paragraph, Articles 5 and 7 of Decision 1999/468/EC shall apply, having regard to the provisions of Article 8 thereof.

The period laid down in Article 5(6) of Decision 1999/468/EC shall be set at three months.

Article 21

Notification of national provisions

Each Member State shall notify to the Commission the specific provisions it adopts in order to implement this Regulation.

The Commission shall inform the other Member States thereof.

Article 22

Review

By 1 April 2015, and every three years thereafter, the Commission shall present a report to the European Parliament and the Council on the application of this Regulation.

Article 23

Entry into force and application

This Regulation shall enter into force on the 20th day following its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

It shall apply from 1 April 2012.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

▼**M4**

ANNEX I

MINIMUM NUMBER OF SIGNATORIES PER MEMBER STATE

Belgium	15 750
Bulgaria	12 750
Czech Republic	15 750
Denmark	9 750
Germany	72 000
Estonia	4 500
Ireland	8 250
Greece	15 750
Spain	40 500
France	55 500
Croatia	8 250
Italy	54 750
Cyprus	4 500
Latvia	6 000
Lithuania	8 250
Luxembourg	4 500
Hungary	15 750
Malta	4 500
Netherlands	19 500
Austria	13 500
Poland	38 250
Portugal	15 750
Romania	24 000
Slovenia	6 000
Slovakia	9 750
Finland	9 750
Sweden	15 000
United Kingdom	54 750

▼M3

ANNEX II

REQUIRED INFORMATION FOR REGISTERING A PROPOSED CITIZENS' INITIATIVE

1. The title of the proposed citizens' initiative, in no more than 100 characters;
2. The subject matter, in no more than 200 characters;
3. A description of the objectives of the proposed citizens' initiative on which the Commission is invited to act, in no more than 500 characters;
4. The provisions of the Treaties considered relevant by the organisers for the proposed action;
5. The full names, postal addresses, nationalities and dates of birth of the seven members of the citizens' committee, indicating specifically the representative and the substitute as well as their e-mail addresses and telephone numbers ([1]);
6. Documents that prove the full names, postal addresses, nationalities and dates of birth of each of the seven members of the citizens' committee;
7. All sources of support and funding for the proposed citizens' initiative at the time of registration ([1]).

Organisers may provide more detailed information on the subject, objectives and background to the proposed citizens' initiative in an annex. They may also, if they wish, submit a draft legal act.

([1]) Privacy statement: in accordance with Article 11 of Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2000 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by the Community institutions and bodies and on the free movement of such data, data subjects are informed that these personal data are compiled by the Commission for the purpose of the procedure in respect of the proposed citizens' initiative. Only the full names of the organisers, the e-mail addresses of the contact persons and information relating to the sources of support and funding will be made available to the public in the Commission's online register. Data subjects are entitled to object to the publication of their personal data on compelling legitimate grounds relating to their particular situation, and to request the rectification of that data at any time and its removal from the Commission's online register after the expiry of a period of two years from the date of registration of the proposed citizens' initiative.

▼M3

ANNEX III

STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FORM — PART A ([1])

(for Member States that do not require the provision of a personal identification number/personal identification document number)

Unless stated otherwise, all fields on this form are mandatory.

TO BE PRE-COMPLETED BY THE ORGANISERS:

1. All signatories on this form are

Please mark only one Member State per list.

residents in:			IE	UK
residents in or citizens of:	EE	NL	SK	FI
residents in or citizens of (citizens living abroad only if they have informed their national authorities about their place of residence):	BE	DK	DE	LU

2. European Commission registration number: 3. Date of registration:

4. Web address of this proposed citizens' initiative in the European Commission's register:

5. Title of this proposed citizens' initiative:

6. Subject matter:

7. Main objectives:

8. Names and e-mail addresses of registered contact persons:

9. Names of the other registered organisers:

10. Website of this proposed citizens' initiative (if any):

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE SIGNATORIES IN CAPITAL LETTERS:

'I hereby certify that the information that I have provided in this form is correct and that I have not already supported this proposed citizens' initiative.'

▼M3

FULL FIRST NAMES	FAMILY NAMES ([2])	RESIDENCE (street, number, postal code, city, country) ([3])	DATE AND PLACE ([4]) OF BIRTH	NATIONALITY	DATE AND SIGNATURE ([5])

([1]) The form shall be printed on one sheet. Organisers may use a double-sided sheet.
([2]) For the Netherlands and Slovakia, please also state the name at birth.
([3]) For Finland, please only state the country of permanent residence.
([4]) For Ireland, Finland and the United Kingdom, please only state the date of birth.
([5]) Signature is not mandatory if the form is submitted electronically via an online collection system as referred to in Article 6 of Regulation (EU) No 211/2011.

Privacy statement: in accordance with Article 10 of Directive 95/46/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 October 1995 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, the personal data provided on this form will only be made available to the competent authorities for the purpose of verification and certification of the number of valid statements of support received for this proposed citizens' initiative (see Article 8 of Regulation (EU) No 211/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 February 2011 on the citizens' initiative) and, if necessary, further processed for the purpose of administrative or legal proceedings relating to this proposed citizens' initiative (see Article 12 of Regulation (EU) No 211/2011). The data may not be used for any other purpose. Data subjects are entitled to obtain access to their personal data. All statements of support will be destroyed at the latest 18 months after the date of registration of the proposed citizens' initiative, or, in the case of administrative or legal proceedings, at the latest one week after the date of conclusion of the said proceedings.

▼M3

STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FORM — PART B ([1])

(for Member States that require the provision of a personal identification number/personal identification document number)

Unless stated otherwise, all fields on this form are mandatory.

TO BE PRE-COMPLETED BY THE ORGANISERS:

1. All signatories on this form hold personal identification numbers/personal identification document numbers of: Please mark only one Member State per list.

BG	CZ	EL	ES	FR	HR	IT	CY	LV	LT	HU	MT	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SE

See Part C for personal identification numbers/personal identification document numbers, one of which must be provided.

2. European Commission registration number: 3. Date of registration:

4. Web address of this proposed citizens' initiative in the European Commission's register:

5. Title of this proposed citizens' initiative:

6. Subject matter:

7. Main objectives:

8. Names and e-mail addresses of registered contact persons:

9. Names of the other registered organisers:

10. Website of this proposed citizens' initiative (if any):

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE SIGNATORIES IN CAPITAL LETTERS:

'I hereby certify that the information that I have provided in this form is correct and that I have not already supported this proposed citizens' initiative.'

▼M3

FULL FIRST NAMES	FAMILY NAMES [2]	RESIDENCE (street, number, postal code, city, country) [3]	DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH [4]	NATIONALITY	PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER/PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION DOCUMENT TYPE AND NUMBER [5]	DATE AND SIGNATURE [6]

[1] The form shall be printed on one sheet. Organisers may use a double-sided sheet.
[2] For Bulgaria and Greece, please also state the father's name. For Greece and Latvia, please also state the name at birth.
[3] Only for France, Croatia, Italy, Austria, Poland and Romania.
[4] For Greece, Spain, Malta, Portugal and Romania, please only state the date of birth. For France, Italy, Latvia, Austria, Slovenia and Sweden, please state both the date and place of birth. For the other Member States, do not state anything.
[5] For Italian identification documents, please also state the issuing authority.
[6] Signature is not mandatory if the form is submitted electronically via an online collection system as referred to in Article 6 of Regulation (EU) No 211/2011.

Privacy statement: in accordance with Article 10 of Directive 95/46/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 October 1995 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, the personal data provided on this form will only be made available to the competent authorities for the purpose of verification and certification of the number of valid statements of support received for this proposed citizens' initiative (see Article 8 of Regulation (EU) No 211/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 February 2011 on the citizens' initiative) and, if necessary, further processed for the purpose of administrative or legal proceedings relating to this proposed citizens' initiative (see Article 12 of Regulation (EU) No 211/2011). The data may not be used for any other purpose. Data subjects are entitled to obtain access to their personal data. All statements of support will be destroyed at the latest 18 months after the date of registration of the proposed citizens' initiative, or, in the case of administrative or legal proceedings, at the latest one week after the date of conclusion of the said proceedings.

▼M3

PART C

1. **Requirements for the Member States that do not require the provision of a personal identification number/personal identification document number (statement of support form — Part A):**

Member State	Signatories whose statement of support is to be submitted to the Member State concerned
Belgium	— residents in Belgium — Belgian nationals residing outside the country if they have informed their national authorities of their place of residence
Denmark	— residents in Denmark — Danish nationals residing outside the country if they have informed their national authorities of their place of residence
Germany	— residents in Germany — German nationals residing outside the country if they have informed their national authorities of their place of residence
Estonia	— residents in Estonia — Estonian nationals residing outside the country
Ireland	— residents in Ireland
Luxembourg	— residents in Luxembourg — Luxembourgish nationals residing outside the country if they have informed their national authorities of their place of residence
Netherlands	— residents in the Netherlands — Dutch nationals residing outside the country
Slovakia	— residents in Slovakia — Slovak nationals residing outside the country
Finland	— residents in Finland — Finnish nationals residing outside the country
United Kingdom	— residents in the United Kingdom

2. **List of Member States that require the provision of one of the personal identification numbers/personal identification document numbers specified below and issued by the Member State concerned (statement of support form — Part B):**

BULGARIA

— Единен граждански номер (personal number)

CZECH REPUBLIC

— Občanský průkaz (national identity card)

— Cestovní pas (passport)

GREECE

— Δελτίο Αστυνομικής Ταυτότητας (identity card)

▼**M3**

— Διαβατήριο (passport)

— Βεβαίωση Εγγραφής Πολιτών Ε.Ε./Εγγραφο πιστοποίησης μόνιμης διαμονής πολίτη Ε.Ε. (residence certificate/permanent residence certificate)

SPAIN

— Documento Nacional de Identidad (identity card)

— Pasaporte (passport)

— Número de Identidad de Extranjero, de la tarjeta o certificado, correspondiente a la inscripción en el Registro Central de Extranjeros (foreigner's identification number (NIE), of the card or certificate, corresponding to the registration in the Foreigners' Central Registry)

FRANCE

— Passeport (passport)

— Carte nationale d'identité (national identity card)

CROATIA

— ►**C1** Osobni ◄ identifikacijski broj (personal identification number)

ITALY

— Passaporto (passport), inclusa l'indicazione dell'autorità di rilascio (including issuing authority)

— Carta di identità (identity card), inclusa l'indicazione dell'autorità di rilascio (including issuing authority)

CYPRUS

— Δελτίο Ταυτότητας (identity card of the national or resident)

— Διαβατήριο (passport)

LATVIA

— Personas kods (personal identification number)

LITHUANIA

— Asmens kodas (personal number)

HUNGARY

— személyazonosító igazolvány (identity card)

— útlevél (passport)

— személyi azonosító szám (személyi szám) (personal identification number)

MALTA

— Karta tal-Identità (identity card)

AUSTRIA

— Reisepass (passport)

— Personalausweis (identity card)

POLAND

— Numer ewidencyjny PESEL (PESEL identification number)

PORTUGAL

— Bilhete de identidade (identity card)

— Passaporte (passport)

— Cartão de Cidadão (citizen's card)

▼**M3**

ROMANIA

— carte de identitate (identity card)

— pașaport (passport)

— certificat de înregistrare (registration certificate)

— carte de rezidență permanentă pentru cetățenii UE (permanent residence card for EU citizens)

— Cod Numeric Personal (personal identification number)

SLOVENIA

— Enotna matična številka občana (personal identification number)

SWEDEN

— Personnummer (personal identification number)

▼B

ANNEX IV

CERTIFICATE CONFIRMING THE CONFORMITY OF AN ONLINE COLLECTION SYSTEM WITH REGULATION (EU) No 211/2011 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL OF 16 FEBRUARY 2011 ON THE CITIZENS' INITIATIVE

… (name of competent authority) of … (name of Member State) hereby certifies that the online collection system … (website address) used for the collection of statements of support for … (title of proposed citizens' initiative) complies with the relevant provisions of Regulation (EU) No 211/2011.

Date, signature and official stamp of the competent authority:

▼B

ANNEX V

FORM FOR THE SUBMISSION OF STATEMENTS OF SUPPORT TO THE MEMBER STATES' COMPETENT AUTHORITIES

1. Full names, postal addresses and e-mail addresses of the contact persons:

2. Title of proposed citizens' initiative:

3. Commission registration number:

4. Date of registration:

5. Number of signatories coming from (name of Member State):

6. Annexes:

   (Include all statements of support from signatories to be verified by the relevant Member State.

   If applicable, include the relevant certificate(s) of conformity of the online collection system with Regulation (EU) No 211/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 February 2011 on the citizens' initiative.)

7. Date and signature of the contact persons:

▼B

ANNEX VI

CERTIFICATE CONFIRMING THE NUMBER OF VALID STATEMENTS OF SUPPORT COLLECTED FOR … (NAME OF MEMBER STATE)

… (name of competent authority) of … (name of Member State), having made the necessary verifications required by Article 8 of Regulation (EU) No 211/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 February 2011 on the citizens' initiative, hereby certifies that … statements of support for the proposed citizens' initiative having the registration number … are valid in accordance with the provisions of that Regulation.

Date, signature and official stamp of the competent authority:

▼M2

ANNEX VII

FORM FOR THE SUBMISSION OF A CITIZENS' INITIATIVE TO THE COMMISSION

1. Title of citizens' initiative:
2. Commission registration number:
3. Date of registration:
4. Number of valid statements of support received (must be at least one million):
5. Number of signatories certified by Member States:

	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	IE	EL	ES	FR	HR	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU
Number of signatories																
	HU	MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	UK	TOTAL			
Number of signatories																

6. Full names, postal addresses and e-mail addresses of the contact persons ([1]).
7. Indicate all sources of support and funding received for the initiative, including the amount of financial support at the time of submission ([1]):
8. We hereby declare that the information provided in this form is correct.

   Date and signature of the contact persons:
9. Annexes:

   (Include all certificates)

([1]) Privacy statement: in accordance with Article 11 of Regulation (EC) No 45/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2000 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by the Community institutions and bodies and on the free movement of such data, data subjects are informed that these personal data are compiled by the Commission for the purpose of the procedure in respect of the citizens' initiative. Only the full names of the organisers, the e-mail addresses of the contact persons and information relating to the sources of support and funding will be made available to the public on the Commission's online register. Data subjects are entitled to object to the publication of their personal data on compelling legitimate grounds relating to their particular situation, and to request the rectification of that data at any time and its removal from the Commission's online register after the expiry of a period of two years from the date of registration of the proposed citizens' initiative.