

MORAIS BISMARQUE GASPAR Ana Gloria

From: David H Price [REDACTED]
Sent: 01 April 2014 00:24
To: Euro-Ombudsman; GADESMANN Gundi
Subject: Re: European Citizens' Initiative: Ombudsman invites feedback

Follow Up Flag: OI/9/2013/TN
Due By: 04 April 2014 08:30
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Emily O'Reilly
European Ombudsman

Dear Ombudsman,
Thanks you for the invitation to present comments about the effectiveness of the European Citizen's Initiative.

I enclose a short commentary from the Schuman Project which studies the origin, purpose and future of the supranational Community method.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any queries.

Yours sincerely,

David H Price
Editor,
Schuman Project
www.schuman.info
eurDemocracy

-----Original Message-----

From: GADESMANN Gundi [REDACTED]
To: GADESMANN Gundi [REDACTED]
Sent: Wed, Jan 29, 2014 10:02 am
Subject: European Citizens' Initiative: Ombudsman invites feedback

European Ombudsman**Press release no. 2/2014**

Text available in [EN](#), [DE](#), [FR](#)
29 January 2014

European Citizens' Initiative: Ombudsman invites feedback

The European Ombudsman, **Emily O'Reilly**, invites organisers of European Citizens' Initiatives (ECIs), civil society organisations, and other interested persons to examine how well the ECI is working. The ECI allows a group of one million EU citizens to call on the European Commission to propose new EU legislation. The deadline for contributions to the Ombudsman's consultation is 31 March 2014.

Emily O'Reilly commented: "The ECI process empowers citizens to participate in EU decision-making. I want to find out how well it is working and recommend improvements if necessary to make it as effective as possible."

How well do the ECI procedures work?

The European Citizens' Initiative began in April 2012. In December 2013, the first completed ECI was submitted to the Commission, with support from more than one million European citizens in at least seven Member States. The "Right2Water" initiative proposes new EU legislation to make member state governments provide their citizens with sufficient and clean drinking water and sanitation.

The Ombudsman opened the investigation on her own initiative. She wants to see what the Commission has done to implement the ECI and will make recommendations to increase the effectiveness of the process, if necessary. Specific issues for scrutiny include the effectiveness of the Commission's software for collecting signatures online, how the contacts with the different national authorities work, and possible protection of privacy concerns. She has also invited ideas on possible future changes to the ECI Regulation. Once the Ombudsman has collected the ECI feedback, she will ask the European Commission to respond.

The Ombudsman's set of questions is available at:

<http://www.ombudsman.europa.eu/en/cases/correspondence.faces/en/53104/html.bookmark>

The European Ombudsman investigates complaints about maladministration in the EU institutions and bodies. Any EU citizen, resident, or an enterprise or association in a Member State, can lodge a complaint with the Ombudsman. The Ombudsman offers a fast, flexible, and free means of solving problems with the EU administration. For more information:

<http://www.ombudsman.europa.eu>



European Ombudsman

Ms Gundi Gadesmann

Deputy Head of the Communication Unit

T. + 32 (0)2 284 26 09

M. + 32 (0)475 34 89 93

Twitter: [@GundiGadesmann](https://twitter.com/GundiGadesmann)



30, Rue Montoyer

MTS 07X010

B-1047 Brussels

www.ombudsman.europa.eu