



EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
Secretariat-General

The Deputy Secretary-General

Brussels,  
SG.C4/OK/cr

Democracy International  
Mehr Demokratie  
Wemove.eu  
The ECI Campaign  
ECAS - European Citizen Action  
Service

Dear petitioners,

Please allow me first to thank those almost 80.000 citizens who have engaged in the public debate by supporting this petition on the European Citizens' Initiative and to your five organisations which have campaigned for it.

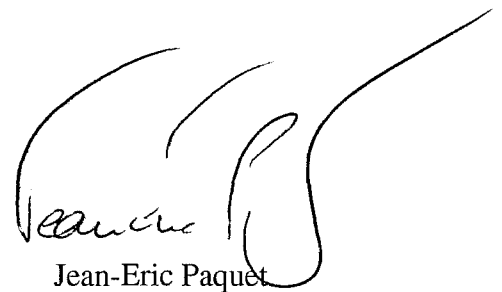
This petition is very timely; as you know the Commission is working on the legislative proposal revising Regulation (EU) No 211/2011 on the citizens' initiative.

In this context the Commission has taken due note of the petition requests. On 30 August 2017 a dedicated meeting was held with the civil society stakeholders engaged in the field of the European Citizens' Initiative. On that occasion your organisations and First Vice President Timmermans had the opportunity to exchange views on how to improve the way the European Citizens' Initiative works, how to make it more accessible less burdensome and easier to use for organisers and supporters.

Along with the recently closed public consultation and many contributions we have received during the whole review process, your petition constitutes valuable input to the ongoing discussions and preparations.

I would like to assure you that the Commission remains fully committed to improving the European Citizens' Initiative so that it achieves its full potential as a tool to foster debate and citizen participation at European level and to bring the EU closer to its citizens.

Yours sincerely,



Jean-Eric Paquet