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Perception survey of participants in European Commission's public consultations

Fields marked with * are mandatory.

Introduction

Dear citizen,

Thank you very much for participating in the European Court of Auditors' survey on your perception of the process of the Commission's public consultations.

Your contribution will help us to assess how the European Commission services, our auditee, consult stakeholders.

We are looking forward to your suggestions for improvement.

Thank you in advance for your participation and feedback!

The ECA public participation audit team

Questions

*1. How many times have you participated in public consultations organised by the European Commission in the last three years, 2016, 2017 and 2018?

- ☒ once
- ☐ 2 or 3 times
- ☐ more than 3 times

*2. Were you replying

- ☒ as an individual in your personal capacity

- ☐ in your professional capacity or on behalf of an organisation
- ☐ in both capacities

* 3. How were you informed about the European Commission's public consultations?

- ☐ by the European Commission's webpage
- ☐ by the European Commission's social media channels
- ☒ by a civil society organisation (non-governmental organisations, labour unions, farmers' associations or other)
- ☐ by national authorities
- ☐ by regional or local authorities
- ☐ by a colleague/friend
- ☐ by my employer
- ☐ by news or articles (whether online or offline)
- ☐ by other

*4. Why did you participate?

- ☒ you were interested in the topic
- ☐ you wanted to influence the legislative outcome
- ☒ you considered your participation a civic responsibility
- ☐ you wanted to share your expertise
- ☐ you were directly affected by the legislative outcome
- ☐ you were asked, in your professional capacity, to participate
- ☐ other

*5. Among these European Commission's public consultations carried out during 2016-2017 and sorted by date, please, select the (last) one in which you participated

- ☐ Food supply chain (https://ec.europa.eu/info/consultations/food-supply-chain_en#questionnaire) (16/08/2017 – 07/11/2017)
- ☐ EU Air Safety List ("Black List of Airlines") Regulation (https://ec.europa.eu/info/consultations/public-consultation-eu-air-safety-list-black-list-airlines-regulation_en) (11/08/2017 – 07/11/2017)
- ☐ European citizens' initiative (https://ec.europa.eu/info/consultations/public-consultation-european-citizens-initiative_en) (24/05/2017 – 16/08/2017)
- ☐ Modernising and simplifying the common agricultural policy (CAP) (https://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/consultations/cap-modernising/2017_en) (02/02/2017 – 02/05/2017)
- ☐ Review of the Clean Vehicles Directive (https://ec.europa.eu/transport/themes/sustainable/consultations/2016-clean-vehicles_en) (19/12/2016 – 24/03/2017)

- ☐ Mid-term evaluation of the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) (<https://ec.europa.eu/transport/themes/infrastructure/consultations/mid-term-evaluation-connecting-europe-facility-cef>) (28/11/2016 – 27/02/2017)
- ☐ Enhancement of the social legislation in road transport (https://ec.europa.eu/transport/modes/road/consultations/2016-social-legislation-road_en) (05/09/2016 – 11/12/2016)
- ☐ Liability of Carriers of Passengers by Sea in the Event of Accidents (http://ec.europa.eu/transport/modes/maritime/consultations/2016-maritime-liability_en.htm) (29/07/2016 – 31/10/2016)
- ☐ Evaluation of the Youth policy cooperation in the EU (http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/education_culture/more_info/consultations/youth-policy-cooperation-evaluation_en.htm) (18/07/2016 – 16/10/2016)
- ☐ Revision of the Port Reception Facilities Directive (2000/59/EC) (http://ec.europa.eu/transport/modes/maritime/consultations/2016-prf_en.htm) (13/07/2016 – 16/10/2016)
- ☐ European Electronic Toll Service (http://ec.europa.eu/transport/modes/road/consultations/2016-eets_en.htm) (08/07/2016 – 02/10/2016)
- ☐ Review of Directive 1999/62/EC ("Eurovignette") (http://ec.europa.eu/transport/modes/road/consultations/2016-eurovignette_en.htm) (08/07/2016 – 02/10/2016)
- ☐ European Refugee Fund (ERF) actions for 2011-2013 (https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/what-is-new/public-consultation/2016/consulting_0037_en) (10/05/2016 – 09/08/2016)
- ☐ Proposal for a mandatory Transparency Register (https://ec.europa.eu/info/consultations/proposal-mandatory-transparency-register_en) (01/03/2016 – 01/06/2016)
- ☐ Evaluation of the EU Drugs Strategy and Action Plan on Drugs (http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/what-is-new/public-consultation/2016/consulting_0032_en.htm) (15/02/2016 – 31/05/2016)
- ☒ No, I do not remember having participating in any of these public consultations

9. To what extent do you agree with the following statements?

	Agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Disagree	Don't know / No opinion
*EU policies and laws are designed transparently	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
*EU policies and laws are prepared based on evidence and backed up by the views of citizens and other stakeholders	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
*Citizens and other stakeholders can contribute throughout the policy and law-making process	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

* The European Commission is taking account of the opinion of citizens and other stakeholders					
* It is important to have public consultations carried out in all 24 official languages of the EU					

Further comments:

1,000 character(s) maximum

The problems are the stakeholders. There shouldn't be a money gap. Companies and people with money have a bigger influence on the commission (and other processes in the EU) than people without money. Having near to no money is the norm, the majority. So this isn't democratic. It isn't social, either. It is neither transparent nor fair. I am not talking about experts. Independent experts are good, as long as there is no bias. Earning money from some lobby is a bias which must be properly balanced. Decisions should be based on pure science. Science, which can be explained to most non-scientists, so they can understand what's going on. Explaining things, in enough detail, such that most people can easily understand everything, this is the debt we must pay to real transparency, as not doing this properly leads to despotism.

10. How would you improve the approach of the European Commission to reach citizens and other stakeholders?

2,000 character(s) maximum

Turn the process 90 to 180 degrees in all available dimensions (spoiler: There are more than 3). Shut your doors for stakeholders. Increase the budget on citizen information at least a billion(!) percent. Here is how: Create a well funded, not-for-profit and absolutely independent (so no advertisements in it!) postmodern newspaper which is paying thousands of good journalists to create CC0 (see creativecommons.org) content in a form which is easy to share and mix (they can cooperate with ARTE and similar national news organizations which are called independent by law). This paper must reach all(!) citizens for absolutely(!) free, independently on how they want to get it (eMail, smart TV, physical paper sheets, Podcast for illiterates, as sign language for the deaf), and independently where they are (i. E. even on the ISS or later perhaps on the Moon or Mars, you get it) or which language they speak. Organize this paper as a public GIT repository or similar (buzzword: Blockchain), such that it's content stays available for now all times and cannot be manipulated after it was published, ever. I am not kidding, we are already beyond the point where we can do it (automatic audio description and translation is no fiction, it already starts to work in real time). This is the only way which could work. If you don't do this, you will fail. You (read: We) are already failing, as it is already 5 minutes after 12 in this respect.

Background Documents

[Privacy_statement.pdf](#)

Contact

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