



***European Citizens'  
Initiative  
- Recent updates***



**European  
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Initiative**

**Welcome to  
(new) members!**



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# Facts & Figures – overview since 2012

**126**  
initiatives  
registered



**11**  
initiatives  
replied to  
by the EC



**3** initiatives  
submitted  
for EC  
examination



**2 (1)**  
initiatives  
under  
verification



## More info:

- [The European Citizens' Initiative in key figures](#)
- [ECI Forum infographic \(2025\)](#)



**European  
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# Initiative updates

ECIs submitted for EC examination and reply in 6 months

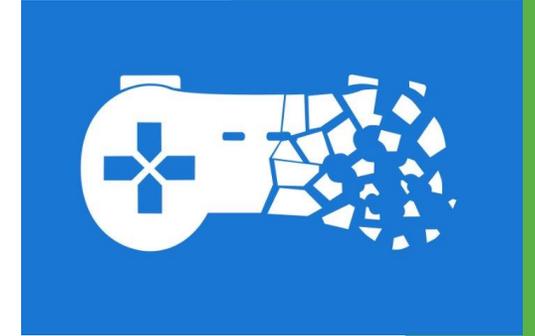
## 'Stop Destroying Videogames'

- ✓ Submitted to the Commission on 26 Jan with 1.29 million verified signatures

### Next steps:

- Meeting with the European Commission representatives
- Public hearing in the European Parliament
- Commission reply by 27 July 2026

Check out [how the ECI works, step-by-step](#)



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# Initiative updates

ECIs submitted for EC examination and reply in 6 months

## 'My Voice, My Choice: For Safe And Accessible Abortion'

- ✓ Submitted to the Commission on 1 Sep with 1.12 million verified signatures
- ✓ Initiative organisers met with the Commission on 1 Oct
- ✓ Public hearing in the European Parliament took place on 2 Dec
- ✓ [FEMM Committee adopted a resolution](#) on this ECI on 8 Dec
- ✓ EP debated the initiative in plenary on 16 Dec, adopted resolution expressing support on 17 Dec: [Press release](#)

### Next steps:

- Commission reply by 2 March 2026



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# Initiative updates

ECIs submitted for EC examination and reply in 6 months

## 'Ban on conversion practices in the European Union'

- ✓ Submitted to the Commission on 17 Nov with 1.12 million verified signatures
- ✓ Initiative organisers met with the Commission on 12 Dec
- ★ Reference to this ECI in the LGBTIQ+ equality strategy 2026-2030 adopted by the Commission on 18 October ([press release](#))

### Next steps:

- Public hearing in the European Parliament on 2 March (more info in Feb on [EP website](#))
- Commission reply by 18 May 2026



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# Initiative updates

## ECIs under verification of collected signatures

### 'Stop Cruelty Stop Slaughter'

- ✓ Signature collection closed on 24 Sep with more than 1.3 million signatures reported
- ✓ Signature verification started on 20 Nov



## Newly registered ECIs – start signature collection within 6 months



**5 Jan 2026**

- ✓ ['Ethics, transparency and integrity for European political parties'](#)

**29 Jan 2026**

- ✓ ['Stop Funding Russia's War: Phase Out Harmful and Useless Russian Imports into the EU'](#)



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# Communication campaign updates

In January, we collaborated with 3 (micro-)influencers on Instagram in France and Germany. Check out their videos below!

[Anna \(@grandebavardeuse\)](#)



[Shanna \(@greenetsoimeme\)](#)



[Rafid \(@itsruffydk\)](#)



Want to share your own videos?

Post it on the [ECI Official Group](#) on Facebook and tag #EUTakeTheInitiative in your posts!



# Recap – what resources are already available?

We encourage the ECI Communicators Network to **disseminate content related to the ECI** through your channels (website, social media, events, etc) – for **ECI Ambassadors**, this is **at least 6 actions** per calendar year!

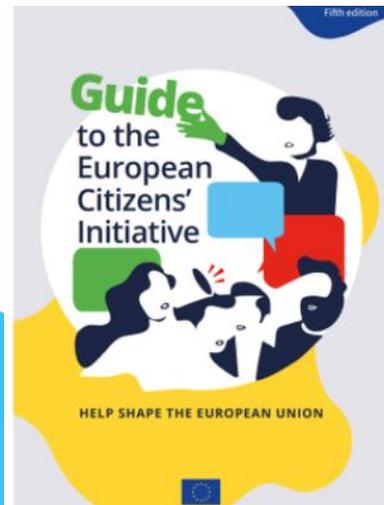
- [ECI Advocacy Handbook](#) – your starting point! This Handbook gives an overview on how to communicate about the ECI incl. key messages, dates, and resources, available in all EU languages
- [Subscribe to the ECI Newsletter](#) for monthly news about the ECI and the network's activities in your mailbox! ([Past editions available online](#))
  - Share your contributions via email to spotlight your work 😊
- Join us on the [ECI Official Group on Facebook](#) to share your activities and ideas and engage with the network!



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# Recap – what resources are already available?

- For ‘offline’ dissemination:
  - ‘Evergreen’ content (timeless): multilingual printed materials and promotional goodies → [Guide, leaflet, and postcard](#)
    - You can request these materials for free using this survey: <https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/ECI-request-communication-materials>



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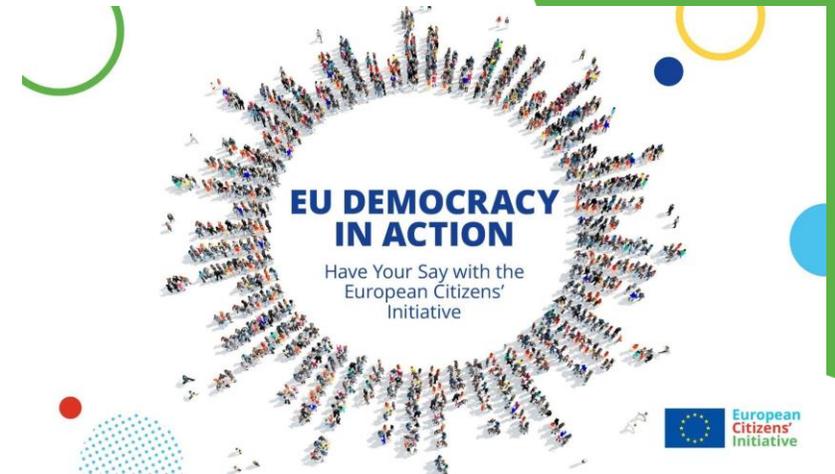
# Recap – what resources are already available?

- For online dissemination:
  - **‘Evergreen’ content (timeless):** multilingual social media tools (sample texts), videos, images, infographics and factsheets, ECI quizzes, and web banners are available on the ECI website → [Communication material](#)
    - ★ **3 new videos in 2025** with on-screen text or subtitles in all EU languages)  
→ [Download the videos](#)
  - **Adhoc content (time-sensitive):** these are related to news on the ECI (e.g., new registrations, new successful ECIs, etc). We share these via email, but we are working on a Google Drive
    - ★ **TIP:** Use the #EUTakeTheInitiative hashtag in your posts and tag your EC Rep for more visibility!

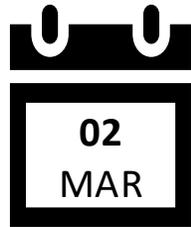


# Recap – what resources are already available?

- For schools:
  - ‘EU Democracy in Action’ Educational toolkit helps teachers turn EU decision-making into practical classroom activities.
  - Available in **all** EU languages.
  - Teachers can **request printed copies** and receive a **digital certificate** after completing the lessons.
  - More information available online: [ECI educational toolkit](#)
  - **Coming soon:** social media materials to help promote the toolkit



# Upcoming events



Public hearing on 'Ban on conversion practices in the EU' in the European Parliament



ECI Day 2026 at EESC



ECI Forum webinar:  
'Understanding the legal requirements for launching an ECI'

Check out our [calendar of events!](#)



## How about you? Got any upcoming events?

- **ECI Ambassadors are encouraged to attend relevant events to showcase the ECI.** We can offer a limited number of allowances and travel cost reimbursements.
- [Request ECI materials from us](#)



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# Upcoming Network event



## 4th ECI Network Gathering

European Commission, Berlaymont building, Hall BERL 5



### Practical details

- Annual **in-person gathering** of the ECI Communicators Network members (ECI Ambassadors, NCPs, EU institutions, ECI Forum, etc)
- **Organisers of ongoing ECIs** will also be invited, building on the success of last year's format
- **Dates:** 16 April (afternoon) and 17 April (morning) – please don't book travel arrangements until you've received the official invitation
- **Language:** English
- Format: Interactive sessions and practical workshops, shaped by feedback from the 2025 gathering
- **Costs:** Travel and accommodation reimbursed (details in the official invitation – please don't book travel arrangements until you receive the invitation)



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# Reminders

## For ECI Ambassadors:

- ECI Ambassadors are required to implement **6 actions** per calendar year (e.g., events, social media posts, blog articles, etc).
- Please report the activities implemented in 2025 (if you haven't already) in the [updated reporting template](#).
- Reminder: reporting is **mandatory for Ambassadors** and optional for NCPs.



**The floor is yours!**



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