

## Discover the European Citizens' Initiative - EU-wide webinar

*Digital event, Tuesday, 3 May 2022 – 18:00-19:30 CET*

Did you know that participating in a European citizens' initiative is one of your rights as an EU citizen? You can support ongoing initiatives or start new ones. The European Citizens' Initiative helps bring the causes EU citizens care about to the EU level, spark a debate, raise awareness and trigger policy change in the EU!

Learn how this unique tool of participatory democracy can help you have your say in the EU and promote the causes that matter to you. Initiative organisers will share their stories and experiences of running a European citizens' initiative and answer your questions. ECI experts will take you through the main steps of the ECI journey and the support available for organisers.

### Agenda

#### 18:00 – **Welcome and introduction**

*Test your knowledge*

#### 18:15 – **Meet the European Citizens' Initiative**, European Citizens' Initiative team, European Commission

#### 18:35 – **Q&A with ECI organisers**: Why did organisers choose the European Citizens' Initiative to take action at EU level? And what have they achieved so far?

Ongoing and past initiative organisers will share their experience, motivation and tips on how best to undertake an ECI.

- *How is the ECI different from national/regional/other EU options? What is its added value?*
- *What are the keys to success and the main steps of the process?*
- *Short informational pitches from each initiative.*

*Speakers include:*

- **Olga Kikou**, Head of the EU Office of the International NGO Compassion in World Farming, substitute representative of 'End the Cage Age' ECI
- **Marina Konstantinidi**, Representative of 'ReturnthePlastics' ECI and lawyer-researcher in climate related issues
- **Michele Gianella**, Italian National Coordinator of the 'Start Unconditional Basic Income (UBI) throughout the EU' ECI
- **Elsa Kraemer**, Substitute representative of 'European ECOScore' ECI
- **TBC** – 'Save Cruelty Free Cosmetics' ECI
- **TBC** – 'Ban Fossil Fuel Advertising and Sponsorship' ECI

*+ 5 min quiz*

#### 19:15 – **Diving deeper with the ECI Forum** - Tips and tricks to make the most of your ECI experience, Elisa Lironi, Programme Director for European Democracy, European Citizen Action Service

Do you want to launch a European citizens' initiative? Find out how the ECI Forum can help you along the way.

#### 19:25 - **Closing remarks** - European Citizens' Initiative team, European Commission