

Right2Water

“Water and sanitation are a human right! Water is a public good, not a commodity!”

The number of European citizens' initiatives that have successfully reached the required number of support statements for the European Commission to take action, continues to grow. Some have resulted in new legislation, while others have had other meaningful results. All of them have built networks around issues and raised awareness among both citizens and policy makers.

“Water quality, infrastructure, sanitation and transparency will all benefit – for people in Europe and in developing countries – as a direct result of this first ever exercise in pan-European, citizen-driven democracy.”

MAROŠ ŠEFČOVIČ

Vice President of the European Commission – 19 March 2014

ORGANISERS' GOAL



EU legislation requiring governments to provide all citizens with sufficient clean drinking water and sanitation

ENGAGEMENT



1,659,543 signatories from 25 EU Member States

FOLLOW-UP



The European Commission:

- committed to step up efforts towards full implementation of EU water legislation;

- adopted a proposal for the revision of the Drinking Water Directive, obliging Member States to improve access to water and ensure access for vulnerable and marginalised groups;
- recognised 'water and sanitation' as a key priority area for development cooperation and advocated to maintain universal access to water and sanitation as one of the Sustainable Development Goals of United Nations' 2030 Agenda;
- contributed to including an explicit reference to the right of citizens to water and sanitation under principle 20 – 'Access to essential services' in the European Pillar of Social Rights.



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European Citizens' Initiative
your tool to shape European policy



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