EUROPEAN CITIZENS’ INITIATIVE (ECI)

VIENNA, 25 FEBRUARY 2013

WATER is a Human Right
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What is an ECI?

• One million EU citizens can call on the European Commission to act on a specific issue
• Tool for participatory democracy
• Ask for (or Do) a legislative proposal
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Regulation

Conditions

- within treaty + powers of the EC
- organizing committee (min 7 from 7)
- member states must verify signatures (ID)
- minimum number of signatures per MS
WATER IS A HUMAN RIGHT

Il faut de l'eau pour tous!
Entièrement d'accord.
À quel nom, la facture?
WHY WATER?

• Neo-liberal agenda of EU

• Public service no.1 under threat

• Increasing inequality within Europe

• Global targets (MDG’s) are far from being met
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WHY?

- 1 million people without water in EU-27
- 8 million people without sanitation in EU-27
- 800 million people without water worldwide
- 2.5 billion people without sanitation
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Subject: Water and sanitation are a human right, water is a public good!

Goal: implementation of the right to water and sanitation

Demands:
1. To ensure water and sanitation for all in EU-27
2. To keep water out of the internal market (No liberalisation)
3. To promote global/universal access to water and sanitation
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Needed:

1 million valid signatures!!!
(within one year and a minimum from at least 7 countries!)
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HOW?

National campaign groups & contacts

• Online and Offline collection
OUR SUPPORTING ORGANISATIONS

- EAPN
- EEB
- EPHA
- WECF
- FYEG

- ETUC
- PSI
- Aqua Publica Europea
- Italian Water forum
- More NGO’s
ONLINE CAMPAIGN: WWW.RIGHT2WATER.EU

Water and Sanitation are a human right! Water is a public good, not a commodity.

We invite the European Commission to propose legislation implementing the human right to water and sanitation as recognised by the United Nations, and promoting the provision of water and sanitation as essential public services for all. The EU legislation should require governments to ensure and to provide all citizens with sufficient and clean drinking water and sanitation. We urge that:

1. The EU institutions and Member States be obliged to ensure that all inhabitants enjoy the right to water and sanitation.
2. Water supply and management of water resources not be subject to ‘internal market rules’ and that water services are excluded from liberalisation.
3. The EU increases its efforts to achieve universal access to water and sanitation.

29,018 signatures collected so far. Help us reach 50,000!
ONLINE CAMPAIGN

Website in several languages
Secured signing website
Download materials

Facebook and Twitter
Mailing lists
OFFLINE CAMPAIGN

Create & Promote events:
- Signatures collection
  - @ market in Sofia 10 Oct. 10am
  - @ festival Humanite in Paris 14 Sept.
  - @ meeting/conference/activity
- Email alert: “to the contacts in”
- Map of Europe with events.

Volunteers needed!!!
AMBASSADORS

Mayors:
• Brussels, Copenhagen, Amsterdam, Nantes, Paris, Napoli, Vienna, ...

MEP’s and national Politicians
NGO-leaders, Water experts, Scientists

Celebrities: Culture, Sports, TV, ...
HUMAN RIGHT TO WATER AND SOCIAL EQUITY

Water (services) must be

• Available for all
• Accessible for all
• Affordable for all
• Safe, clean & quality for all
• Acceptable for all
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**TOOL:** to change the mind-set in the EU Commission from market-based approach and competition to rights-based approach and public service

**GOAL:** Achieve universal (global) access to water and sanitation
Safeguard limited public water resources for future generations
Water and sanitation are a human right!
Water is a public good, not a commodity!
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Sign!  www.right2water.eu