



# EUROPEAN CITIZENS' INITIATIVE (ECI)

VIENNA, 25 FEBRUARY 2013



# EUROPEAN CITIZENS' INITIATIVE

## 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



# EUROPEAN CITIZENS' INITIATIVE

## 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



# 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



# EUROPEAN CITIZENS' INITIATIVE

## 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 ”



# EUROPEAN CITIZENS' INITIATIVE

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

# EUROPEAN CITIZENS' INITIATIVE



**Needed:**

**1 million valid signatures!!!**

**(within one year and a minimum from at least 7 countries!)**



# EUROPEAN CITIZENS' INITIATIVE

HOW?



## National campaign groups & contacts

- Online and Offline collection





## OUR SUPPORTING ORGANISATIONS

–EAPN

–EEB

–EPHA

–WECEF

–FYEG

–ETUC

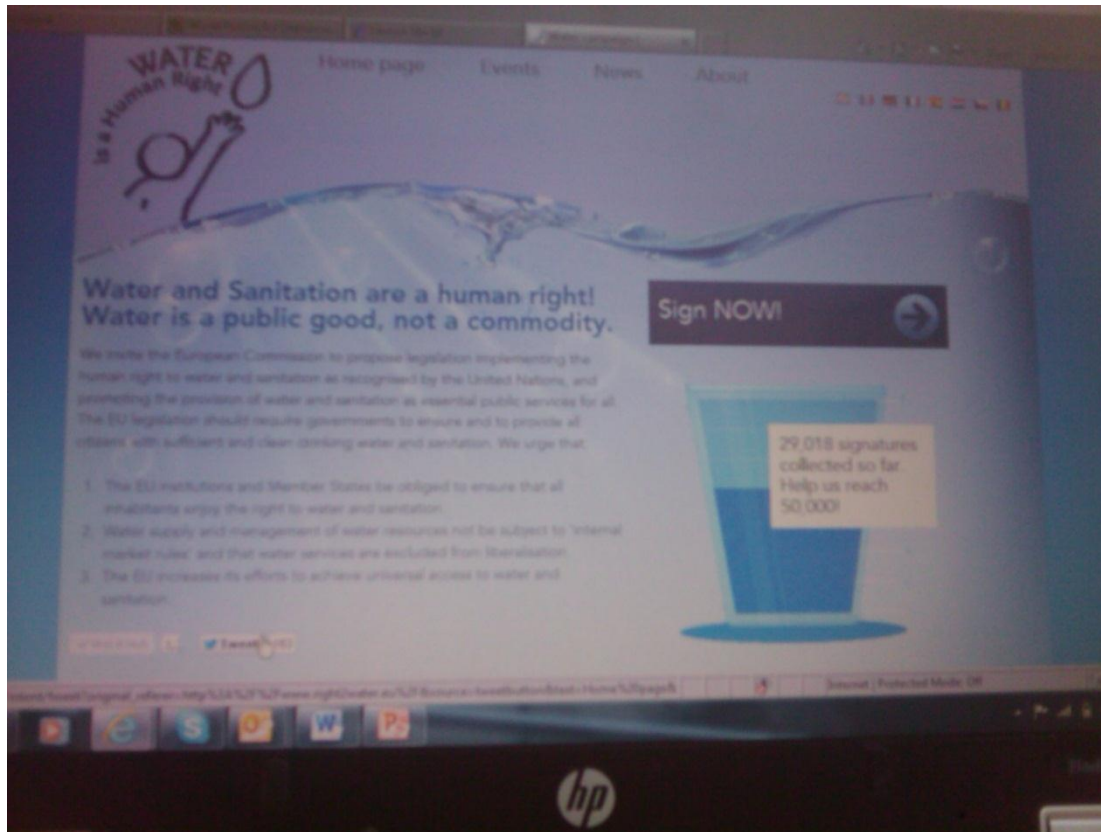
–PSI

–Aqua Publica  
Europea

–Italian Water forum

–More NGO's

# ONLINE CAMPAIGN: [WWW.RIGHT2WATER.EU](http://WWW.RIGHT2WATER.EU)



## 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



# EUROPEAN CITIZENS' INITIATIVE

**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!**



# EUROPEAN CITIZENS' INITIATIVE

**Sign!** [www.right2water.eu](http://www.right2water.eu)

