

EurEau views on EU legislation affecting drinking water supply

Oliver Loebel

Secretary general, EurEau

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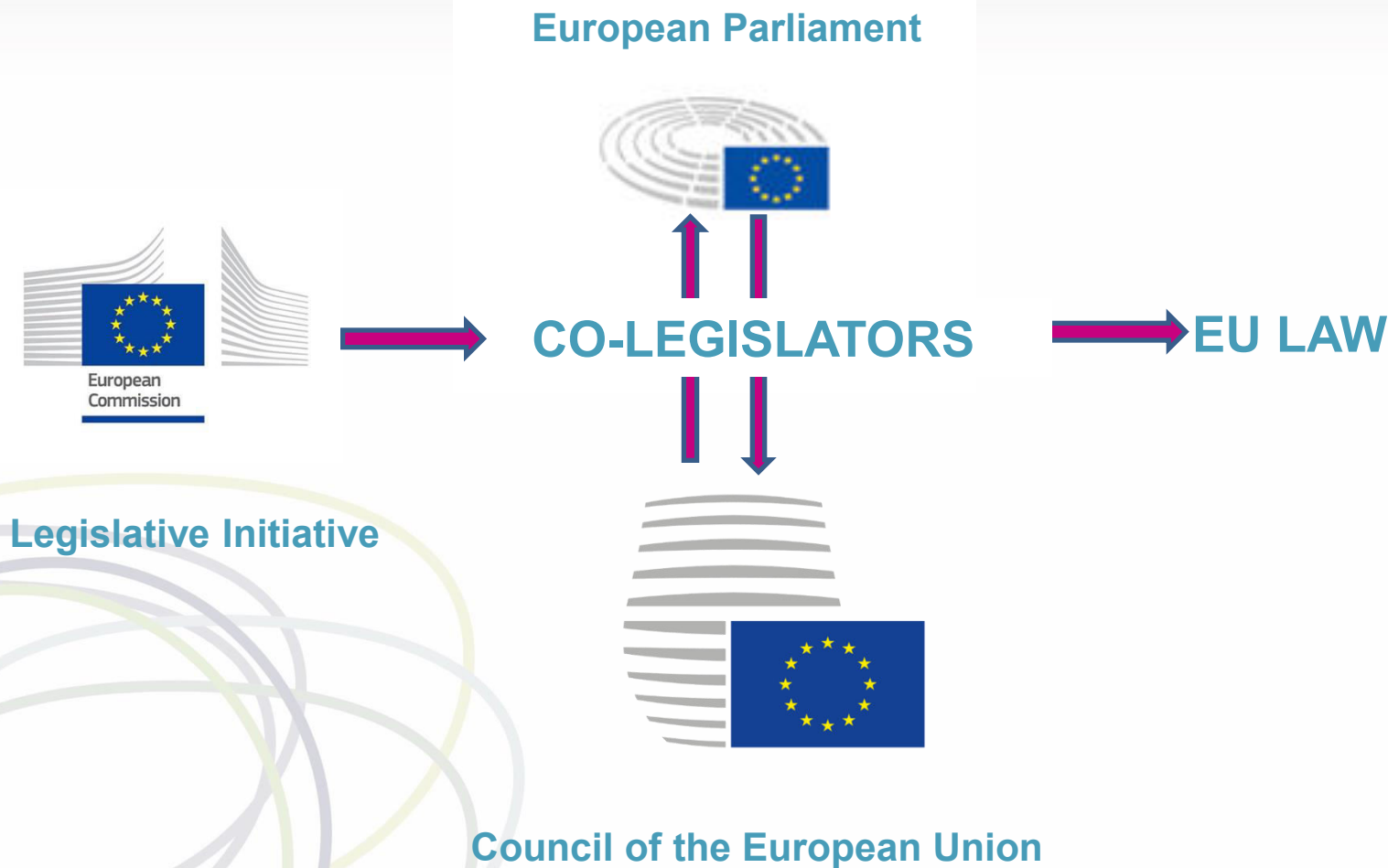
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Who we are

- EurEau is the **European Federation of Water Services**
- 32 national associations of **drinking and waste water operators** from 29 European countries
- Both public and private sector
- 500,000 direct jobs



The decision making – Ordinary legislative procedure



Revision of the Drinking Water Directive



Right-to-Water Initiative

Initiative details - Europe

ec.europa.eu/citizens-initiative/public/initiatives/successful/details/2012/000003/en

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Draft legal act:

Sources of support and funding:

Last update: 20/12/2013

Name of sponsor	Date ^[1]	Amount in EUR ^[2]
European Federation of Public Service Unions (EPSU)	03/04/2012	100,000
European Federation of Public Service Unions (EPSU)	18/04/2013	20,000
European Federation of Public Service Unions (EPSU)	28/11/2013	20,000

Total amount of support and funding: €140,000

[1] Date when the contribution was received. In case of in kind contributions, date when the in kind contribution started.

[2] Actual amount of funding provided or estimated value of in kind contribution.

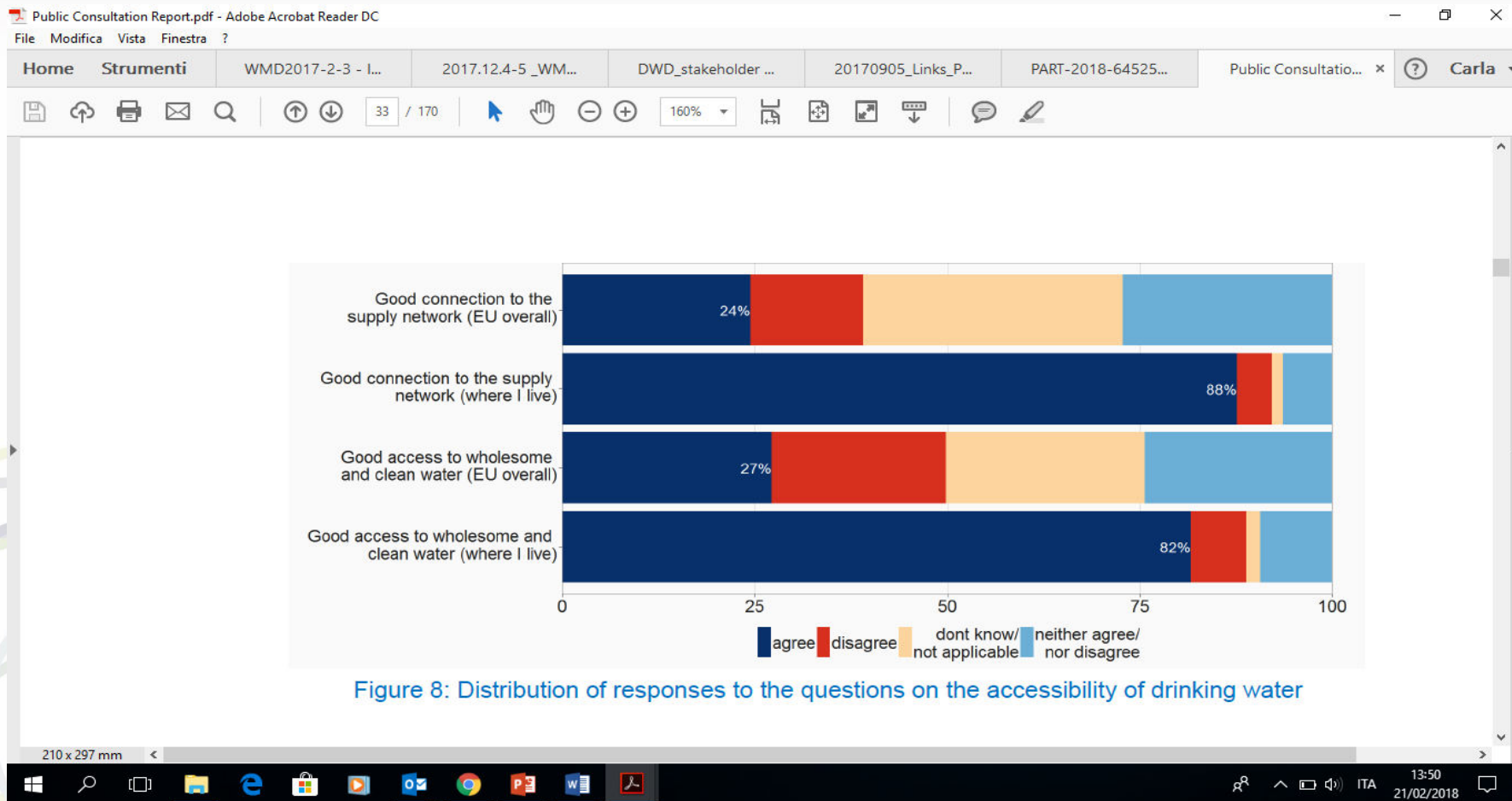
Number of statements of support at the time of submission:

Austria	Belgium	Bulgaria	Croatia	Cyprus	Czech Republic	Denmark	Estonia	Finland
57,643	40,549	1,406	0	2,924	7,575	0 (3,495 *)	516	14,589
France	Germany	Greece	Hungary	Ireland	Italy	Latvia	Lithuania	Luxembourg
0 (17,247 *)	1,236,455	33,220	18,245	2,513	65,223	393	13,252	5,566
Malta	Netherlands	Poland	Portugal	Romania	Slovakia	Slovenia	Spain	Sweden
1,635	21,469	3,962	13,964	3,176	20,988	17,546	58,051	11,579
United Kingdom								
7,104								

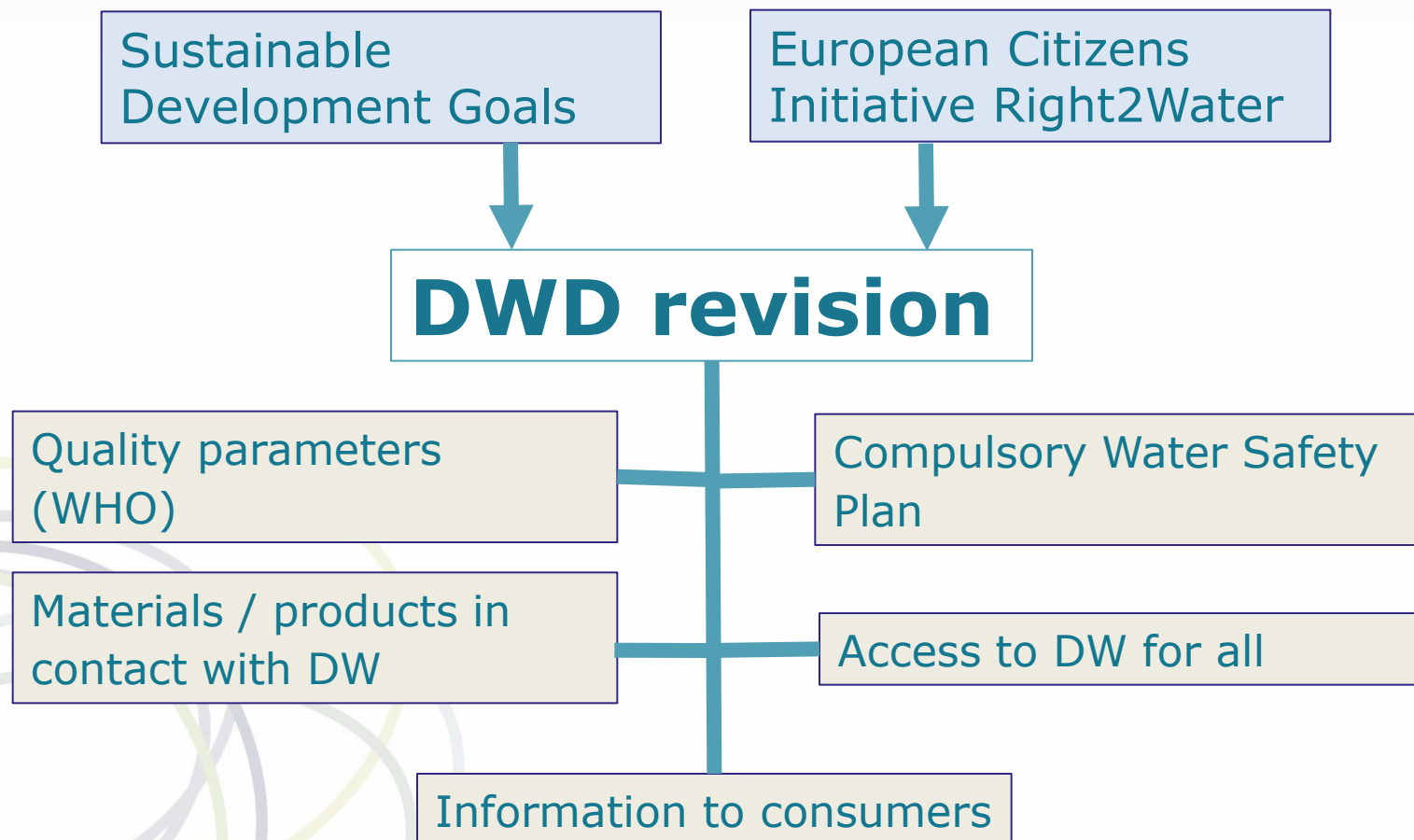
Number of signatories: **1,659,543**

15:45 16/02/2018

Public consultation 2014



Revision areas



Commission: Positive elements

- Update of quality parameters (based on WHO)
- Introduction of compulsory risk-based approach
- Hazard assessment for water bodies (link with WFD)
- Risk assessment of domestic distribution systems
- Access to water for all in line with UN SDG6
- Promote tap water in restaurants
- More information to the public



World Health
Organization



Commission: week points

- Utility **size categories**
- **WHO recommendations** for quality parameters not always followed (EDCs)
- Increased minimum frequency for **sampling and monitoring** especially for chemical parameters
- **Roles and responsibilities** between water operators and competent authorities
- **Products / materials** in contact with drinking water
- Automatism that any **exceedance of parameters** is a danger to public health
- Unclear responsibilities regarding **access to water** for all
- Increased **information requirements - incoherences**
- **Derogations** should be re-introduced

EU Parliament (ENVI) vote

- Better categorisation of utilities
- Indicators parameters are re-introduced
- **Annex Chemical parameters = Commission proposal**
- Frequency for **sampling and monitoring** decreased compared to Commission proposal
- **Roles and responsibilities** between water operators and competent authorities better defined in the RBA
- **Products / materials** in contact with drinking water: new article introduced to establish a framework for EU-wide hygienic requirements
- The automatism that any **exceedance of parameters** is a danger to public health is removed
- **Access to water** for all: better framed
- Less incoherences on the **information requirements**
- **Derogations** re-introduced



Next steps

Council of the EU

- 6 Working Parties
- Environment Council on June 25
- **Next meeting: 25 September**
- No other meeting scheduled

European Parliament

- Report submitted by Rapporteur Dantin
- 10 September vote in ENVI
- **23-24 October vote in Plenary**

- Council: DWD not a priority file for the AT presidency
- Final agreement unlikely before elections => decision postponed to end of 2019?
- **National associations must influence Plenary vote on Annex I B. by mid-October**
- **National associations must contact national ministries.**



Evaluation of the Water Framework Directive



Europe's waters today

- Success of European water policy to protect aquatic environment
- UWWTD: reducing pollution from households
- Results shown in the EEA European Waters Report (2018):
 - **Point sources:** only **18 %** of pressures (38% for diffuse sources)
 - **40% of surface waters** in good ecological status (**little change** since first cycle)
 - **38%** bodies in good chemical status (**97%** if ubiquitous priority substances (mercury) not taken into account)

Implementation not complete

Art. 7 (3) Water Framework Directive

(Waters used for the abstraction of drinking water)

- “[...] *avoiding deterioration in their quality to reduce the level of purification treatment [..]*”

Art. 9 (1) Water Framework Directive

(Recovery of costs for water services)

- “[...] *take account of the principle of recovery of the costs of water services, including environmental and resource costs, and in accordance ... with the **polluter pays principle** [..]*”
- “[...] *An adequate contribution of the different water uses, disaggregated into at least **industry, households and agriculture**, to the recovery of the costs of water services [..]*”

What do we want?

- Maintain objectives / ambition of the WFD beyond 2027
- Improve communication of progress
- Take account of climate change and its impact
- to avoid end-of-pipe solutions, ensure holistic approach to water pollution based on 'source control' measures.
- Effective policy coordination with relevant EU legislation.
- Consider an extension of the deadline beyond 2027.

Next steps

- Public consultation to be launched ahead of the Vienna Conference
- Vienna EU Water Conference 20-21 September
- REFIT evaluation report by mid-2019
- Revision? Up to the next European Commission

Common Agricultural Policy (CAP)



- More national responsibilities
- Ecoschemes and nutrient management plans
- Positive signs but no « blueing »
- «Conditionality» includes WFD and Nitrates directive
- Less money for rural development fund
- EurEau members should get in touch with their national agriculture ministry to make sure 'water' measures are part of the national plans

Other topics





- Pharmaceuticals in the environment
- Microplastics
- Pesticides

Together we can make a difference

Thank you!



Oliver Loebel

Rue du Luxembourg 47-51,
B-1050 Brussels, Belgium
Tel: +32 (0)2 706 40 80
Fax: +32 (0)2 706 40 81
BE 0416 415 347
secretariat@eureau.org
www.eureau.org

EurEau. Water Matters.
www.eureau.org

