

# Better Regulation:

A framework for scientific  
evidence in policymaking

Evidence-based and transparent policymaking: an integral part of the way the European Commission executes its right of initiative.

A graphic with a yellow background. At the top, it says "European Commission". Below that, "Better Regulation" and "Joining forces to make better laws". In the center, a hand holds a blue calculator with various icons on its buttons. The calculator display shows "2050".

Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions

- **OECD ranked the BR Commission approach among the best practices in 2018 & 2021:**  
1st for Stakeholders engagement
- **2019 better regulation stocktaking**
- **2021 improvements: Joining forces to make better laws**
  - Optimised consultation process
  - Increased transparency
  - Improved analysis of key impacts
  - Strategic foresight in better regulation
  - One-in, one-out

# How does better regulation work?

**Evaluations** assess existing legislation to identify strengths and weaknesses, costs and benefits, and the underlying reasons.

**Impact assessments** look at problems, possible solutions and their impacts (notably economic, social and environmental).

**REFIT** ensures we systematically consider simplification and burden reduction

**Stakeholder engagement** allows us to collect views and data from stakeholders.

# Better regulation: Stakeholders engagement

A key aim of the Commission is to promote the participation of Europeans and civil society in the policymaking activities:

- Increase outreach and focus
- Simplify and improve accessibility
- Provide swifter feedback

## Did you know that...?

- Every **12 hours**, an opportunity for citizens to be engaged in the policy making of the Commission is published on Have your say portal (call for evidence documents, public consultations, legislative proposals, draft delegated/implementing acts)
- whereas, every **3,5 days**, a public consultation is published on the same web portal open for contributions

# Better regulation



# Consultation opportunities

## **Outset: Commission's initiatives**

- Feedback on call for evidence document and Public Consultation

## **After adoption: Legislative proposals**

- Feedback

## **Before adoption: Draft Delegated & Implementing Acts**

- Feedback

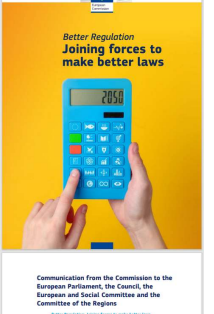
## **Throughout the year: Suggestions to simplify existing EU law**

- [Have Your Say – Simplify](#) contributions

'Evidence' refers to multiple sources of data, information, and knowledge, including quantitative data such as statistics and measurements, qualitative data such as opinions, stakeholder input, conclusions of evaluations, as well as scientific and expert advice.

- Policymaking is informed by best evidence – reaching out to the scientific community can prove hard.
- One important category of stakeholders is **the scientific community**, that can provide evidence based on rigorous scientific methods and peer review processes, and that might need to be specifically targeted.

# Joining forces to make better laws



**The scientific community has a key role to play in providing evidence and data for policy making.** Access to scientific evidence is also key to address global challenges:

- A new effort to involve the scientific research community and encourage them to submit relevant scientific research at the beginning of the process
- Better engage with the Member States, national authorities and other representative associations to **raise awareness** of the possibilities.
- Contributions from different types of stakeholders, **including the scientific community will be better distinguished from each other.**
- Opening up scientific evidence to **public scrutiny**



# Better regulation guidelines and toolbox

- **Solid principles in using science for policymaking:**
  - FAIR principles help managing scientific evidence transparently
    - Findable
    - Accessible
    - Interoperable
    - Reusable
- **Processes to support engagement**



*Better Regulation*  
**GUIDELINES**



*Better Regulation*  
**TOOLBOX**

# Have your say and Have your say: Simplify!

## Welcome to Have your say

Citizens and businesses can share their views on new EU policies and existing laws.

  [All initiatives >](#)

## Log in / Register to contribute

In order to contribute you'll need to register or login using your existing social media account.

## Highlights



EU Voluntary Review on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

9

[Have your say >](#)



Energy labelling – European Commission to examine need for new rules on environmental impact of photovoltaics

27

[Have your say >](#)



Allocation of EU airport slots – review of rules

10

[Have your say >](#)

## Simplify existing EU laws

Get involved in making EU laws more efficient and fit for future! The Fit for Future Platform will consider your suggestions when making its recommendations to the European Commission.

Share your suggestions at [Have your say: Simplify! >](#)

# Call for evidence

- A single entry point for all contributions to initiatives (CfE document + public consultation)
- It combines two previous subsequent steps: feedback and public consultation
- It consists of a description of the initiative and, where relevant, include a link to the public consultation.
- It is available in all EU official languages and people will have 12 weeks to respond.

*“In line with the European Commission’s Better Regulation initiative to develop policies informed by the best available knowledge, we also invite scientific researchers, as well as academic organisations, learned societies, and scientific associations with expertise in the **[technical and policy fields linked to initiative]**, to submit relevant published and pre-print scientific research, analyses and data. We are particularly interested in submissions that synthesise the current state of knowledge in relevant field(s).”*

## In preparation

### Call for evidence

### Public consultation

Feedback and  
consultation period

20 January 2022 - 05  
May 2022

FEEDBACK: OPEN

UPCOMING

## Commission adoption

Planned for

Third quarter 2022

FEEDBACK: UPCOMING

## About this initiative

**Summary** The Commission's action plan for fair and simple taxation underlines the need to reflect on how tax authorities can use technology to fight tax fraud and benefit businesses, and on whether the current VAT rules are adapted to doing business in the digital age.

The action plan announces a legislative proposal for 2022 on 'VAT in the digital age', which will cover:

- VAT reporting obligations and e-invoicing
- VAT treatment of the platform economy
- single EU VAT registration.

**Topic** Taxation

**Type of act** Proposal for a directive

**Category** Commission Work Programme

## Call for evidence

FEEDBACK: OPEN

### Feedback period

20 January 2022 - 05 May 2022 (midnight Brussels time)

## The Commission would like to hear your views.

This call for evidence is open for feedback. Your input will be taken into account as we further develop and fine-tune this initiative. Feedback received will be published on this site and therefore must adhere to the

# Public consultations

- **Summary report**
- **Synopsis report (more detailed)**
- **Staff Working Document (Impact Assessment/Evaluation/Fitness check)**

# Reflections

- **Understanding the importance of scientific evidence and its limits**
- **Knowledge gaps identification**
- **Optimal outreach to the scientific community**
- **Focused ecosystem and community**
- **Institutional support to channel both the request for scientific support and the input received**