

How can European Citizens' Initiatives Make a Difference for Civil Society?

Event co-organised by The Good Lobby and Compassion in World Farming

Agenda and Speakers

Introduction

- **10:30 – 10:45** *Can ECIs make a difference for the EU and its Civil Society?* – **Alberto Alemanno** (Jean Monnet Professor of EU Law at HEC Paris and The Good Lobby Founder) will present a data-driven review of the ECI's first 13 years, spotlighting signature milestones, stalled campaigns, and post-signature hurdles.
- **10.45 – 11.00** | EO key note Speech - *How to preserve the ECI as a meaningful tool of democratic participation* (**Teresa Anjinho, European Ombudsman**)

Discussions (Moderated by Alberto Alemanno)

- **11:00 – 11:30** | **End the Cage Age Case Study** - This session will unpack the tactics and turning points that triggered the Commission's initial commitment **and explain why a court case was necessary and what to expect from the upcoming court decision.**
 - Vinciane Patelou, Head of EU Affairs, Compassion in World Farming
 - Thomas Hieber, Lawyer, ETCA Citizens' Committee
- **11.30 – 12:30** | **Are ECIs Still Effective?** - This session will discuss whether ECIs remain an effective tool for civil society to influence the EU agenda, pinpointing post-signature bottlenecks, and debating the need for regulatory reform or new advocacy strategies.
 - **Loránt Vincze** (MEP, EPP, Romania),
 - **Adriana Mungiu** (Team Leader, European Citizens' Initiatives, European Commission)
 - **Carsten Berg** (Director, the ECI Campaign)
- **Q&A Session** – Ample time for audience questions and reflections.
- **12:30 – 13:30** | **Lunch** – a light reception with sandwiches and refreshments