

European Parliamentary Research Service

Evaluations during legislative procedure at the European Parliament: the case of the circular economy proposals

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EPRS | European Parliamentary Research
Service



Overview

- European Parliamentary Research Service
- Evaluation during the legislative process
- Circular economy package

European Parliamentary Research Service

- Our mission

- **empowerment** through **knowledge**

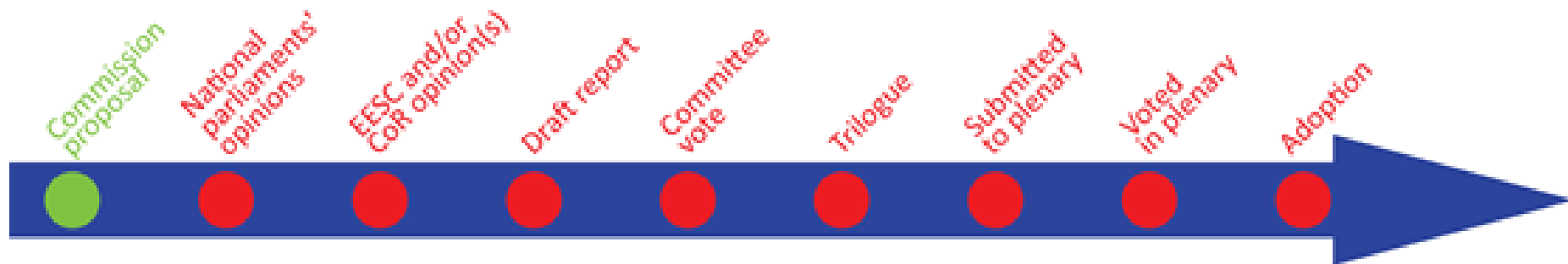
- We are

- a service set up in **2013**
 - **320 staff** covering all policy areas at all stages of the policy cycle

- We produce policy analysis

- ex-ante
 - ex-post
 - during the legislative process

Evaluation during the legislative process



Evaluation during the legislative process

- ‘Legislation in process’ publications
 - **analysis of each legislative proposal** submitted by European Commission
 - **regular updates** at each major step of legislative procedure

Evaluation during the legislative process

—Purpose

- improve access to information (for MEPs and public)
- contribute to better-informed debates in EP
- strengthen position of EP in legislative process

—Challenges

- bulky documents
- timeliness
- access to yet undisclosed information

Circular economy package



Circular economy package: background

- July 2014: initial Circular economy package
 - ‘Towards a circular economy: a zero waste programme for Europe’
 - Legislative proposal to amend six directives on waste
- Withdrawal by Juncker Commission
 - Reasons (beyond ‘political discontinuity’)
 - Consequences: attention, uproar and high expectations
- December 2015: new Circular economy package
 - ‘Closing the loop - An EU action plan for the circular economy’
 - Legislative proposals to amend the same six directives on

Circular economy package: action plan

—Strengths

- more detailed measures to promote transition
- timetable for announced measures

—Weaknesses

- announced legislative proposals not key to circular economy (e.g. fertilisers, water reuse)
- mainly soft measures (communications, guidance, standards, support)
- many measures had already been announced in 2014 and 2011

[Closing the loop: New circular economy package](#)

Circular economy package: legislative proposals

—Focus on waste management

- setting targets on preparation for reuse/recycling and landfilling of municipal waste
- implementing the waste hierarchy
- improving quality of data

—Key issues left open

- role of incineration (waste-to-energy)
- contaminants in recycled materials

—Key issues not addressed

- non-municipal waste
- growing material stocks

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