



Conference programme

Better regulation

taking stock and sustaining our commitment



DATE: 29 APRIL 2019 8:30 UNTIL 16:15

VENUE: CHARLEMAGNE, ROOM DE GASPERI – RUE DE LA LOI 170, BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

The Juncker Commission came into office with a commitment to do different things and to do them differently. To achieve this, it put better regulation principles at the heart of its policy making processes, enabling it to focus on delivering the initiatives needed to support its 10 political priorities for the benefit of European citizens and businesses.

The Commission has recently taken stock of how better regulation has worked. The conference will present the findings, explore how the Commission can further improve results and continue to foster open, collaborative and evidence-based policy-making that can efficiently deliver the results our citizens demand.

8:30 – 09:00	Registration and welcome coffee	
09:00 – 09:30	Opening address	Frans Timmermans (First Vice-President of the European Commission)
09:30 – 11:00	Panel I – Views: Engaging Better With Interested Parties	

To make the EU more transparent and accountable, and to ensure that policies are based on the best available evidence, the Commission is working to consult and listen more, and to better explain what it intends to do and why. Interested parties indicate consultations and transparency as the two areas where the Commission has made most progress since 2015. However, they point to the very same areas as those also needing more improvements in the future. What should future progress look like? How can all relevant stakeholders be reached, and the public better involved in policy-making, without 'consultation fatigue' setting in?

<i>Moderator:</i>	Riccardo Maggi (Member of the First Vice-President's cabinet, European Commission)
<i>Keynote speaker:</i>	Pia Ahrenkilde-Hansen (Director-General, DG Communication, European Commission)
<i>Panellists:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bernd Dittmann (Member of the European Economic and Social Committee – SME and Better regulation)• Ursula Pachtl (Deputy Director General, European Consumer Organisation (BEUC), Member of the REFIT Platform)• Paul Maassen (Chief Country Support, Open Government Partnership)• Síle Lane (Head of international campaigns and policy, Sense about Science)

11:00 – 11:30	Coffee break
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11:30 – 13:00	Panel II — Facts: Quality and Scrutiny
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Better regulation aims to provide the best possible basis for timely and sound policy-making. It informs political decision-taking without replacing it. But better regulation cannot happen without honest and credible high-quality analyses of what works and what does not, and of what may work and why. Performing such analyses and ensuring their quality is a fundamental challenge for all better regulation systems. In this context, a key role is played by regulatory oversight conducted by 'a standing body close to the centre of government', as recommended by the OECD. The Regulatory Scrutiny Board has provided such oversight for the European Commission since 2016. Evidence suggests its scrutiny has helped produce better impact assessments and evaluations. Most stakeholders recognise this, but at the same time are calling for further improvements in the quality and use of impact assessments and evaluations. How can this be achieved? How can the Board help achieve this?

<i>Moderator:</i>	Veronica Gaffey (Chair of the Regulatory Scrutiny Board)
<i>Keynote speaker:</i>	Anne Bucher (Director-General, DG Health and Food Safety, European Commission; former Chair of the Regulatory Scrutiny Board)
<i>Panellists:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anthony Teasdale (Director-General, European Parliamentary Research Service) • Matthias Oel (Director for Migration, Mobility and Innovation, DG Migration and Home Affairs, European Commission) • Leila Kostiainen (Chair of the Finnish Council of Regulatory Impact Analysis, Chair of RegWatchEurope) • Céline Kauffmann (Deputy Head of the Regulatory Policy Division, OECD)

13:00 – 14:30	Buffet lunch
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14:30 – 16:00	Panel III — Results: Better Regulation as a Shared Effort
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The stocktaking showed that virtually everyone agrees that EU policy should be based on evidence; that it needs to be proportionate and deliver on the ground, while avoiding unnecessary costs. Nobody doubts either that action should only be taken at EU level if doing so adds value. The Commission is continuing to pursue these aims, but cannot deliver the desired results by itself. After all, its legislative proposals are amended by the European Parliament and the Council, and transposed and implemented by the Member States. This panel will discuss how a stronger shared effort can ensure that EU legislation delivers efficiently and effectively on the ground.

<i>Moderator:</i>	Pascal Leardini (Director for Strategy, Better Regulation & Corporate Governance, Secretariat-General, European Commission)
<i>Keynote speaker:</i>	Claire Bury (Deputy Director-General, DG Communications Networks, Content and Technology, European Commission)
<i>Panellists:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jenő Czuczai (Member of the Director General's cabinet for General and Institutional Policy, Council of the European Union) • Olgierd Geblewicz (President of Westpomerania Region, Member of the Committee of the Regions) • Stephan Naundorf (Advisor to the Minister of State to the Chancellor, Better Regulation Unit, German Federal Chancellery) • Claudio M. Radaelli (Professor of Public Policy, University College London) • Jens Hedström (former Chair of the BusinessEurope working group for better regulation, Member of the REFIT Platform, Chair of BIAC Governance Committee at OECD)

16:00 – 16:15	Closing remarks	Ben Smulders (Head of the First Vice-President's cabinet, European Commission)
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