



Better Regulation

Political Guidelines 2014

Key challenges for the new Commission:

- rebuild bridges in Europe after the crisis
- restore citizens' confidence in Europe
- focus policies on the key challenges ahead for our economies and societies
- strengthen democratic legitimacy

After the European Parliament elections of 2014, the time has come for a new approach

Political Guidelines "Agenda for Jobs, Growth, Fairness and Democratic Change":

- Focus on 10 policy areas where the EU can make a real difference
- Aim to deliver concrete results on these 10 areas
- Leave other policy areas to Member States where they can act more effectively

Political Guidelines 2014

"I propose to renew the European Union on the basis of an Agenda for Jobs, Growth, Fairness and Democratic Change. An agenda that concentrates on the areas where the European Union is able to make a real difference. (...)

I want a European Union that is bigger and more ambitious on big things, and smaller and more modest on small things."

Better Regulation: A key priority for the Commission

Early measures:

- CWP 2015
 - 23 new initiatives
 - 80 withdrawals
 - 79 REFIT initiatives
- Regulatory Scrutiny Board
- Renew Inter-Institutional Agreement for Better-Lawmaking
- Strengthen internal Guidelines
- Strengthen cooperation with Stakeholders and Member States
- New REFIT actions

Better Regulation is about the whole policy cycle



Better Regulation: The System





The Commission IA system

Integrated approach

- All benefits and costs.
- Economic, social and environmental impacts.

Wide scope

- All initiatives with significant impacts, from policy defining proposals to implementing measures

Transparency

- Publication of Roadmaps, IAs and IAB opinions
- Comprehensive stakeholder consultation

Impact Assessment Board becomes Regulatory Scrutiny Board

Results so far ...

- More than 680 IAs, over 900 IAB opinions since 2007
- 2010 ECA audit found that:
 - **The Commission's IA system is effective in supporting EU decision making**
 - **No other system has a similar comprehensive approach**
 - **Consultations with stakeholders are widely used**
 - **The IAB is contributing to quality of proposals**
 - **IA reports comply with the IA guidelines**
- Findings confirmed by more recent studies (EP „Matrix“ study, CEPS study, OECD)

Stakeholder Consultation

- **Wide scope: Treaty obligation** to carry out broad consultations with parties concerned before making a policy proposal.
- **Transparency and outreach:** Early warning on consultation plans provided in **roadmaps**. Open public consultations posted at **single access portal** 'Your Voice in Europe'. Contributions of respondents published and **feedback** provided in summary and IA reports.
- **Rules: General principles and minimum standards** for consulting external parties. Strengthened provisions in **IA context** - stakeholders to be consulted on all key aspects of analysis.
- **12-week public consultation on impact assessment.**

Evaluation



- Stronger focus on regulatory measures
- "Evaluate First Principle"
- More attention to broader areas of legislation and cross-cutting issues (via Fitness Checks)
- Pilot joint evaluations with Member States

Strengthening internal practice to further improve ..

- Scrutiny of proportionality, subsidiarity
- SME test and competitiveness proofing
- Quantitative assessment (i.e. for EU added value)
- Transparency and Consultation: Mandatory public consultations plus targeted stakeholder consultations where necessary
- Consistency between instruments

Regulatory Fitness and Performance Programme ("REFIT")

- Identify burdens, inconsistencies, gaps and ineffective measures across acquis ('Mapping')
- Take action: withdraw, repeal, simplify, improve
- Assess: evaluations and Fitness Checks
- Consult: Involve Stakeholders
- Track Progress: Scoreboard



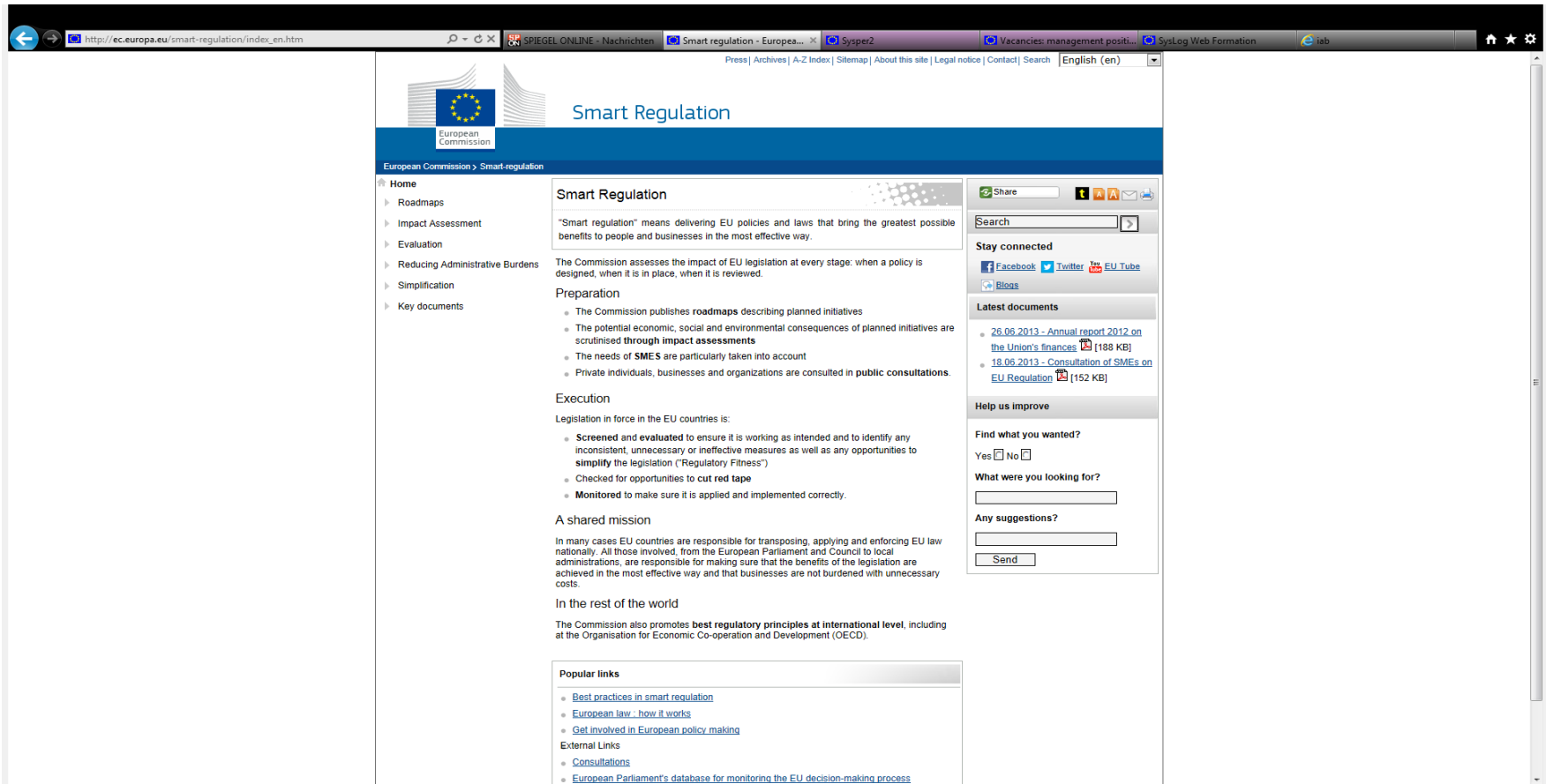
REFIT Results

- **Annual screenings of the EU's regulatory acquis**
- **79 REFIT initiatives in CWP 2015**
- **Scoreboard of +/- 185 individual initiatives**
 - Simplification Proposals with Legislator: +/-50
 - New simplification initiatives in preparation: +/-30
 - Evaluations and Fitness checks: 60 planned; 20 underway.
 - 10 Withdrawals mentioned in CWP 2015 and 15 Repeals.

A shared Mission ...

- EU Level - A new Inter-Institutional Agreement for Better Lawmaking
- Member States – A national better regulation agenda
- Stakeholders – Active Involvement

Further information



The screenshot shows the 'Smart Regulation' page on the European Commission website. The page is titled 'Smart Regulation' and features a navigation menu on the left with items like 'Home', 'Roadmaps', 'Impact Assessment', 'Evaluation', 'Reducing Administrative Burdens', 'Simplification', and 'Key documents'. The main content area is divided into sections: 'Smart Regulation' (defining it as delivering EU policies and laws that bring the greatest possible benefits), 'Preparation' (listing steps like roadmaps, impact assessments, and SME needs), 'Execution' (describing legislation in force and screening/evaluation processes), 'A shared mission' (emphasizing the role of EU countries and local administrations), and 'In the rest of the world' (mentioning international regulatory principles). A 'Popular links' section at the bottom lists resources like 'Best practices in smart regulation' and 'European law - how it works'. The right sidebar contains a search bar, social media links, and a feedback form.

Smart Regulation: <http://ec.europa.eu/smart-regulation/>