

# The EU Decision Making Process: When to Step In



PAC

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## **1. A Mechanical Approach**

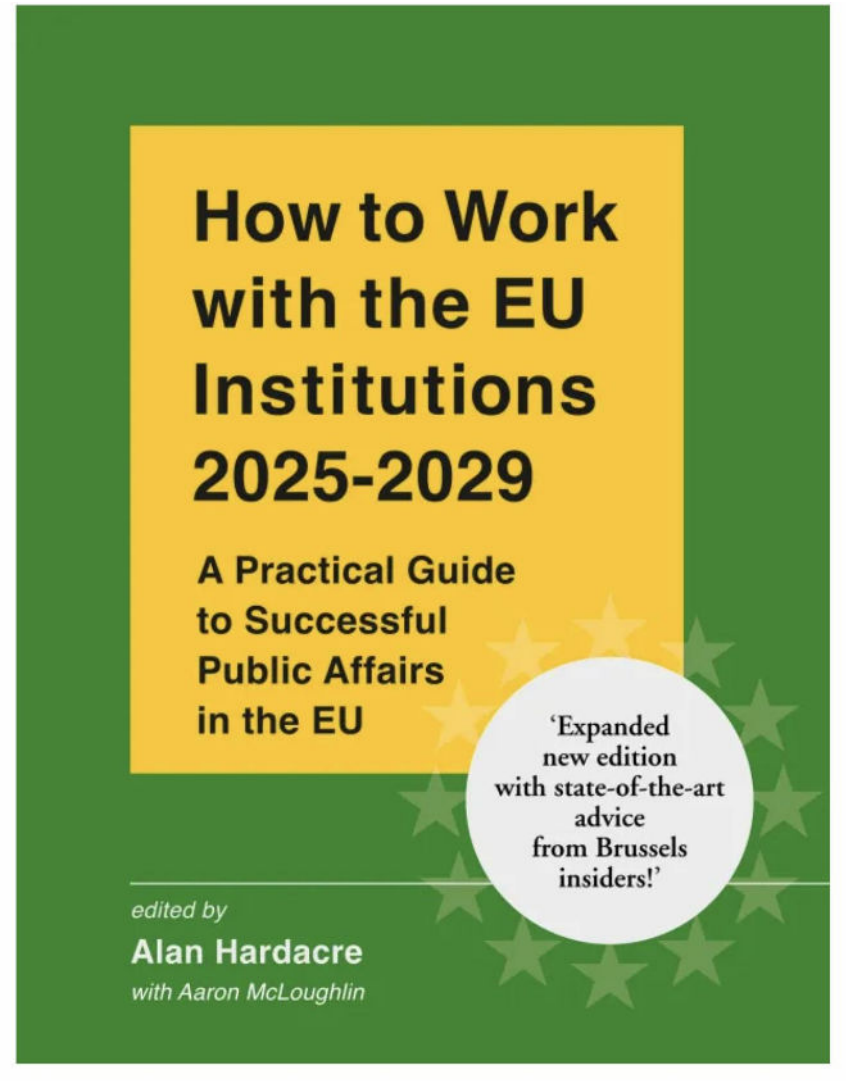
## **2. The Classical Approach: When to Engage with the Commission**

- A Generic Map for Ordinary Legislation
- A Case Study – CLP Adoption
- An Evergreen Master Map
- Lessons Learned

## **3. A New Approach – VDL II**

## **4. Secondary Legislation**

# The Secrets are Hidden in Books



# The Case for a Mechanical Approach

Contain emotional  
response

It Reduces  
Bad Surprises

It Provides a Map  
to Guide You

It Allows to  
Adapt and Evolve

# Take Aways

- The earlier you step in to influence a measure, the better.
- The windows of opportunity to influence a proposal are 'lit up' for you.
- There are a limited number of people you need to deal with.
- It is better/easier to try and influence the preparation than afterwards.
- You need credible evidence to support your case, brought at the right time.
- Engage at the right time, with the right people, right evidence, and the right values.

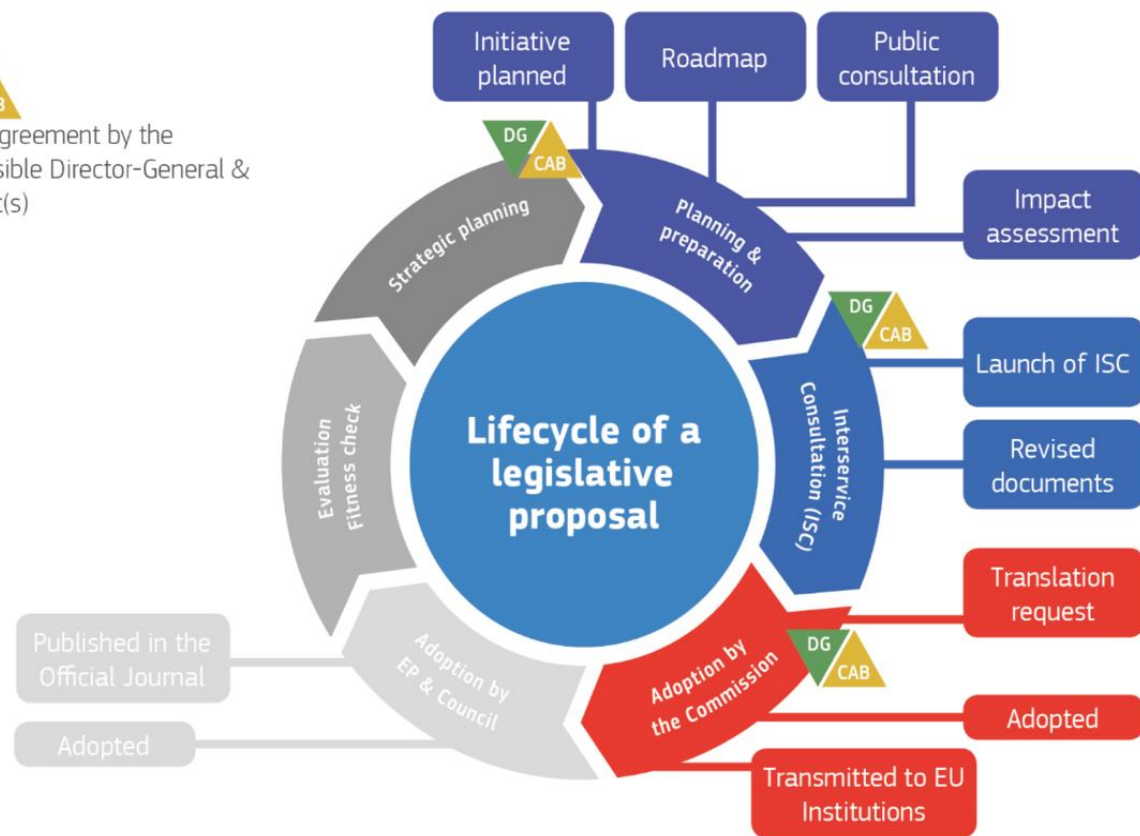


# The Classical Approach – When to Engage





\*Prior agreement by the responsible Director-General & Cabinet(s)



### 3 Clear Stages:

- Preparation
- Adoption
- Legislative Passage

**99% of proposals will go through this journey.**



# Agenda Pre-Set

	Thursday	Friday	Sa / Su	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
When the College meets in <b>Brussels</b>	<b>RSCC(s)</b>	<b>GRI</b>				<b>College (am)</b>
	<b>RSCC(s)</b>			<b>HEBDO (pm)</b>		<b>EXCO</b>
When the College meets in <b>Strasbourg</b> (12x/year)	<b>GRI</b>					
	<b>RSCC(s)</b>	<b>HEBDO (pm)</b>			<b>College (pm)</b>	<b>EXCO</b>

## Possible items for Commission agendas 16 October – 25 November 2025

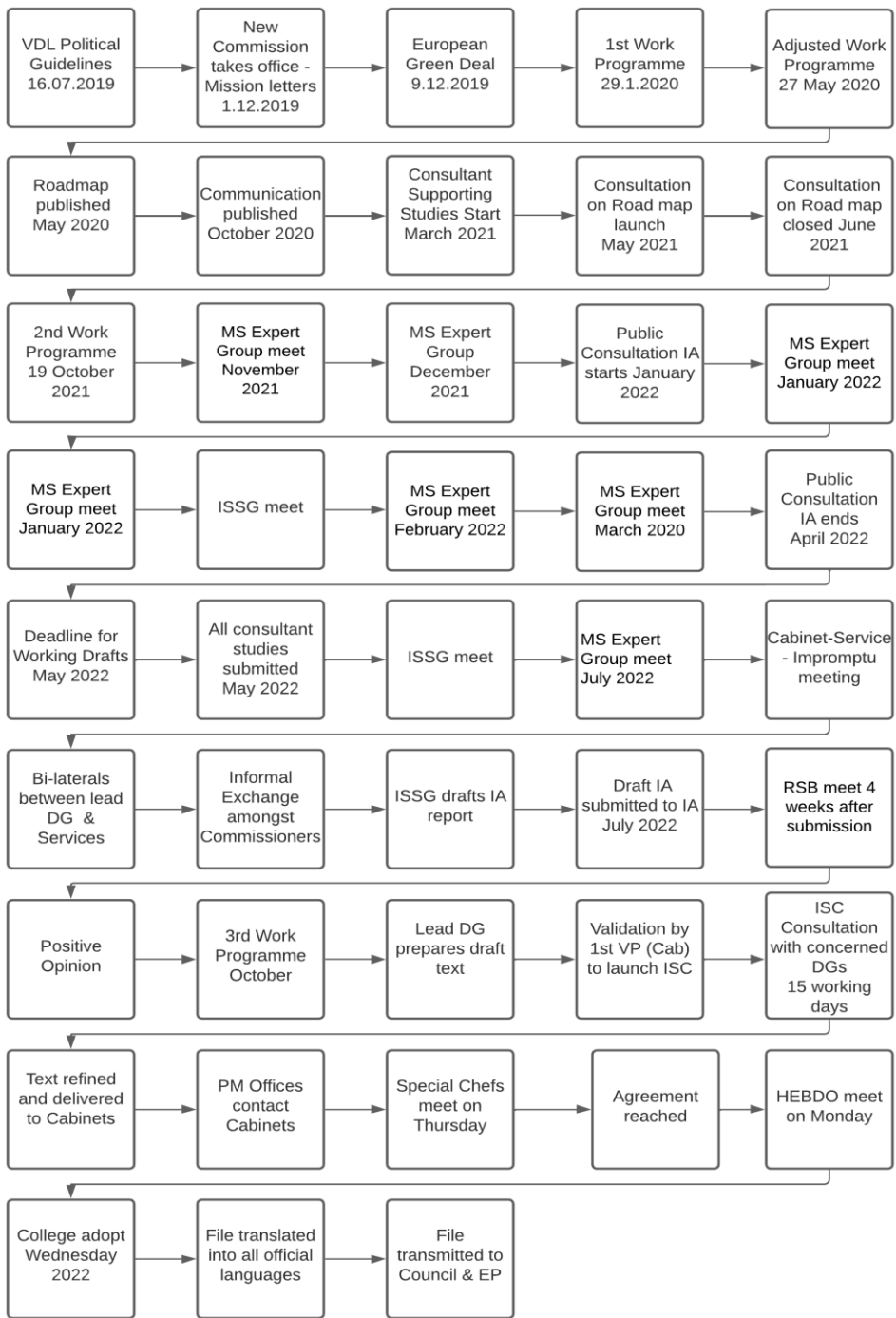
The planning is indicative and proposals are subject to Better Regulation principles, including the requirement to conduct an impact assessment.

Only key policy items are included in this indicative list.

The President may at any moment in time, decide to change the planning and/or to call for additional Commission meetings.

Date of Commission meeting (tbc)	Possible items for oral procedure	President/EVP Responsible	Other relevant events
16/10/2025	Roadmap for European Defence Readiness  A global vision with global energy and climate diplomacy objectives ahead of COP 30  Pact for the Mediterranean	PRESIDENT/KALLAS  RIBERA/KALLAS  KALLAS	
21/10/2025 (Str)	2026 Commission work programme  2025 Annual Overview Report on Simplification, Implementation and Enforcement  Communication on the Generational Renewal in Agriculture	PRESIDENT  PRESIDENT/DOBROVSKIS  FITTO	20-23 October EP Plenary  23-24 October European Council
29/10/2025	2030 Consumer Agenda, including an action plan for consumers in the Single Market  European Data Union Strategy  Transport package  - A European high speed rail network plan	VIRKKUNEN  VIRKKUNEN  FITTO	





# Lessons Learned

- **The Windows of Opportunity are marked.**
- **Engage with the Key People**
  - Task Force
  - ISSG
  - ISC (Services & Cabinet)
  - Member State Experts

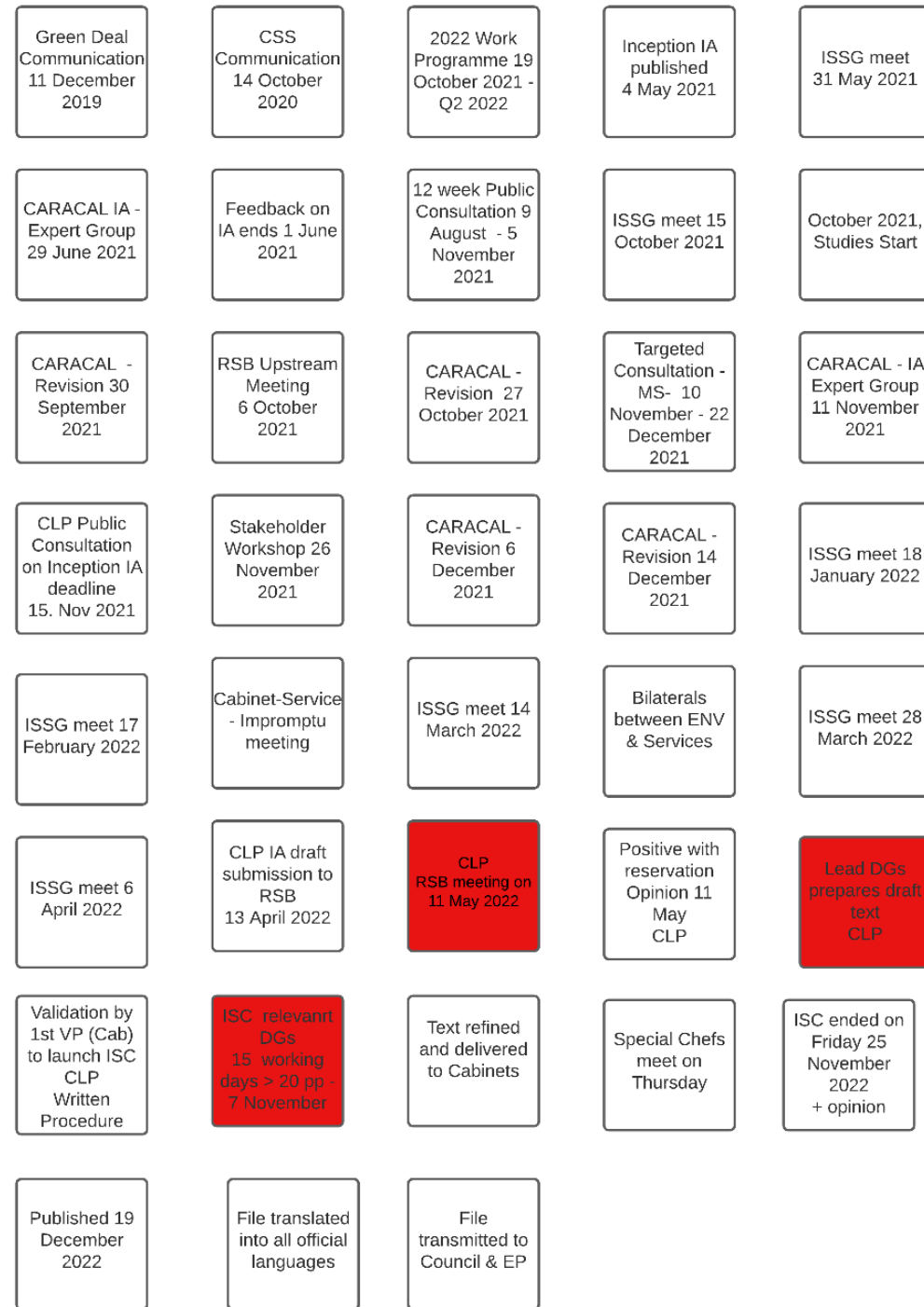


## [Inter-Service Steering Group (ISSG) Inter-Service Consultation (ISC)]

- Don't miss the opportunity / Bring the right evidence on time
  - shadow impact assessments
  - reliable data & studies
- Bring solutions to the table
- Practice evolves
- Most decisions are taken by written procedures

# A Case Study

## CLP Adoption



Agenda Setting (6 months)			Programming (6 months)				Internal Commission Work														
Council Strategic Agenda		President Political Guideline	Green Deal Communication	2020 Work Program	CSS Communication	2021 Work Program	Inception I.A.	ISGG Meets	CARACAL Meets	Feedback Inception I.A.	12w Public Consultation Starts										
1	20 June 2019	2	16 July 2019	3	11 December 2019	4	28 January 2020	5	14 October 2020	6	19 October 2020	7	4 May 2021	8	31 May 2021	9	30 June 2021	10	1 July 2021	11	9 August 2021
Internal Commission Work (15 Months)																					
12	30 September 2021	13	30 September 2021	14	6 October 2021	15	15 October 2021	16	27 October 2021	17	10 November 2021	18	15 November 2021	19	17 November 2021	20	26 November 2021	21	6 December 2021	22	22 December 2021
Internal Commission Work																					
23	18 January 2022	24	17 February 2022	25	Cabinets & Services Meeting	26	14 March 2022	27	14 March 2022	28	28 March 2022	29	6 April 2022	30	13 April 2022	31	6 April 2022	32	May 2022	33	18 October 2022
Final Political Validation							Ordinary Legislative Procedures Kick-Off														
34	7 November 2022	35	Text Refined & Delivered to Cabinets	36	Chef de Cabinet Meeting	37	Interservice Consultation Ends	College Meets A. Point		39	Legislative Proposal Published	40	Feedback on Proposal Starts	41	File Transferred to Council & EP	42	Coordinator Meetings - Appointment EPP Rapporteur	43	Subsidiarity Check Starts by National Parliaments	44	Appointment EPP Rapporteur
Legislative Amendments Phase																					
45	06 February 2023	46	22 February 2023	47	13 March 2023	48	20 March 2023	49	22 March 2023	50	31 March 2023	51	5 April 2023	52	5 April 2023	53	17 April 2023	54	27 April 2023	55	2 May 2023
Legislative Amendments Phase																					
56	04 May 2023	57	08 May 2023	58	11 May 2023	59	22 May 2023	60	22 May 2023	61	31 May 2023	62	08 June 2023	63	09 June 2023	64	14 June 2023	65	15 June 2023	66	16 June 2023
Legislative Amendments Phase																					
67	19 June 2023	68	21 June 2023	69	23 June 2023	70	26 June 2023	71	30 June 2023	72	03 July 2023	73	15 July 2023	74	ENVI + Committee Report Tabled for Plenary		75	27 September 2023	76	03 October 2023	
Legislative Amendments								Interinstitutional Negotiation													
77	04 October 2023	78	05 October 2023	79	23 October 2023	80	24 October 2023	81	08 November 2023	82	10 November 2023	83	10 November 2023	84	17 November 2023	85	21 November 2023	86	29 November 2023	87	30 November 2023
Interinstitutional Negotiation																					
88	01 December 2023	89	05 December 2023	90	05 December 2023	91	06 December 2023	92	07 December 2023	93	11 December 2023	94	18 December 2023	95	19 December 2023	96	22 December 2023	97	22 December 2023	98	11 January 2024
Interinstitutional Negotiation								Adoption													
98	08 March 2024	99	08 April 2024	100	23 April 2024	101	18 June 2023	102	03 September 2024	103	04 September 2024	104	17 September 2024	105	04 October 2023	106	09 October 2024	107	14 October 2024	108	23 October 2024

Council

Commission

Parliament

Trilogue

Communication

Political Agreement

Working Group/Meetings

Public Final Legal Text

Working Document

Public Consultation

Deadline

Publication & Entry into Force

Publication in the Official Journal

Entry into Force

10920 November 2024

11010 December 2024



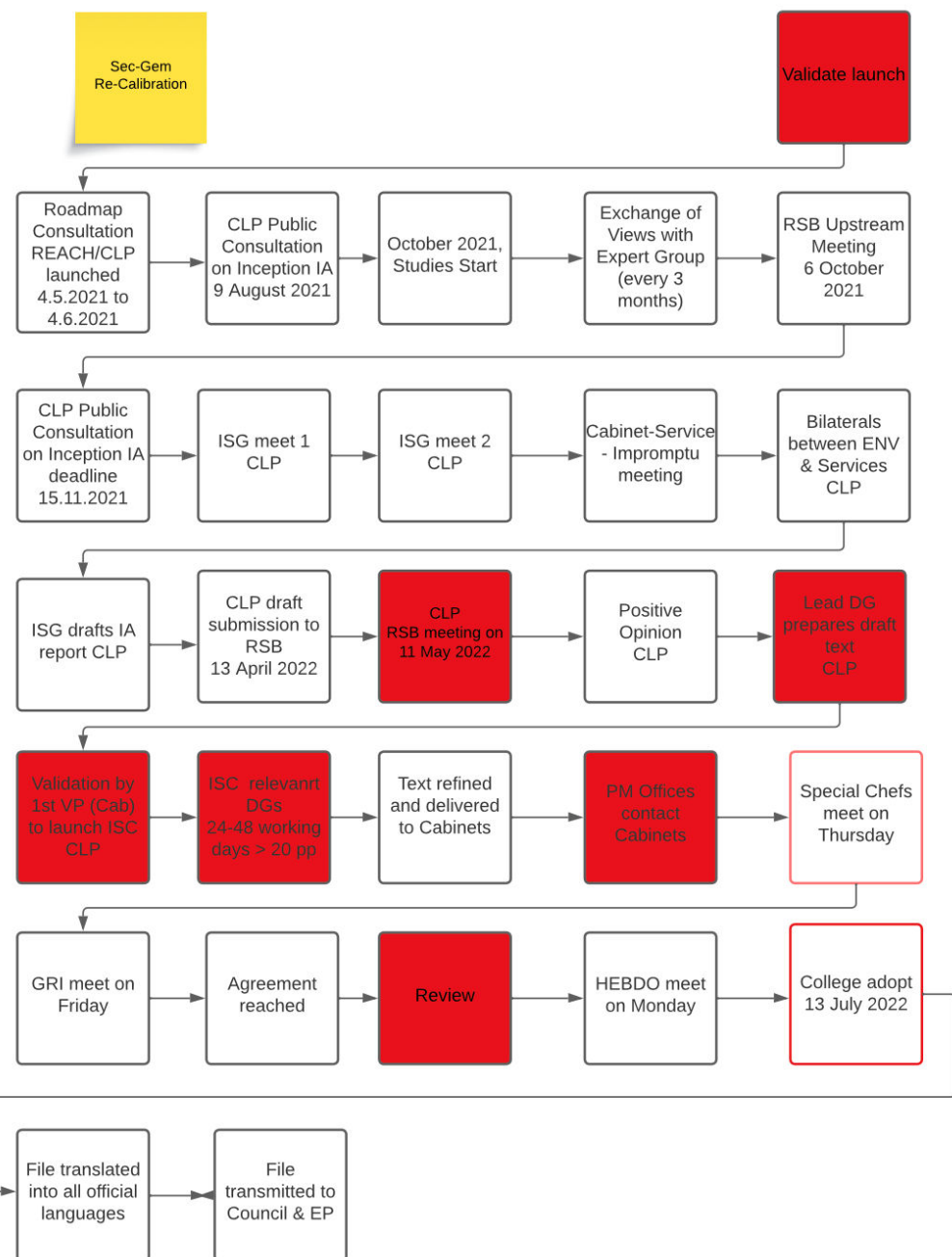
A photograph of a large, modern glass building, likely the European Parliament, with many European Union flags flying in the foreground. The building has a curved facade and a grid-like structure. The flags are blue with yellow stars. The sky is clear and blue.

# The New Approach



# Key



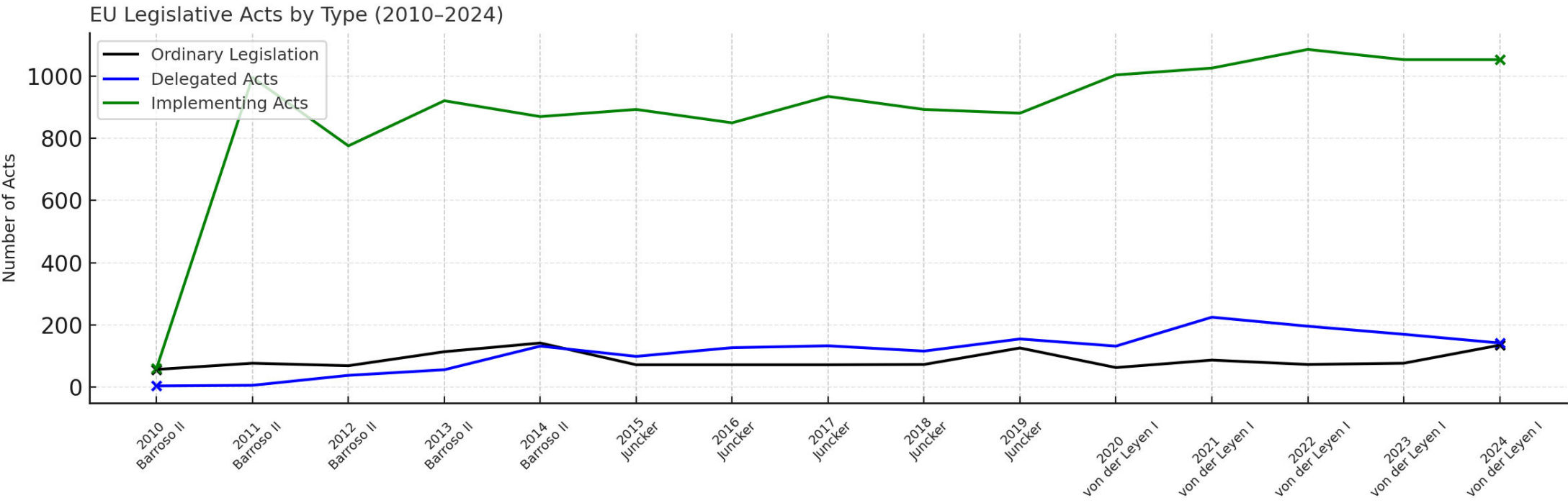


# What's Changed

- **Process on paper the same.**
- **ISC 48 hours & no objection**
- **Centralisation**
- **Sidelined Commissioners/Cabinets**
- **Framing 'Simplification and EU Competitiveness'**
- **'**

- **Sec-Gen enhanced role – drafter & supervisor – Troops**
- **Bring solutions & evidence to the table very early**
- **Tweaking, not structural**
- **Push back from the Services**

# Secondary Legislation























# **Delegated act**

***CLH Dossier + Delegated Act (ATP 21)***

***Procedural Steps: 29***



 Registry of Intention <b>07 October 2019</b>	 Dossier Submitted for Accordance Check <b>19 December 2019</b>	 CLH Dossier Published <b>03 February 2019</b>	 Public Consultation Opens <b>24 February 2019</b>	 Public Consultation Close <b>24 April 2020</b>
 Exchange of View in RAC <b>08 March 2020</b>	 RAC Adopt Opinion <b>18 March 2020</b>	 Draft ATP Transferred to Commission <b>December 2021</b>	 Commission Initiative Validated <b>20 January 2022</b>	 CARACAL Meets - Discuss RAC Opinion <b>24 March 2022</b>
 Deadline for CARACAL Experts to Provide Feedback <b>25 April 2022</b>	 CARACAL Meets - Discuss RAC Opinion <b>05 July 2022</b>	 Commission Launched ISC <b>15 December 2022</b>	 ISC Ends <b>15 December 2022</b>	 Commission Release Draft Regulation <b>15 December 2022</b>
 Commission Notifies WTO of 23rd ATP <b>02 March 2023</b>	 CARACAL Meets - Discuss 21st ATP <b>25 March 2023</b>	 Commission Published Revised Regulation <b>24 April 2023</b>	 Deadline for Comments WTO Notification <b>25 April 2022</b>	 Commission Publish Stakeholder Comments <b>15 December 2022</b>
 Commission Published Updated Revised Regulation <b>11 May 2023</b>	 CARACAL Meets - Discuss 21st ATP <b>25 May 2023</b>	 Commission Publish Corrected Version Draft <b>6 June 2023</b>	 Commission Launch Adoption Procedure (Written) <b>12 October 2023</b>	 Commission Adopt Delegated Act <b>19 October 2023</b>
 EP Scrutiny Council Scrutiny <b>20 October 2023</b>	 EP Scrutiny Ends Council Scrutiny Ends <b>19 December 2023</b>	 21st ATP Published in the OJ <b>5 January 2024</b>	 Entry Into Force <b>25 January 2024</b>	

 Member States
 ECHA
 Commission
 Parliament



Communication



Political Agreement



Expert Group



Final Legal Text



Working Document



Public Consultation



Deadline

Confidential - Not for Public Consumption or Distribution

# ***RPS Measures***

## ***REACH Restriction + RPS Measure***

### ***Procedural Steps: 47***

# Microplastics Restriction



***Implementing act***

***Biocides - 16 Procedural Steps***

***Implementing act***

***Biocides - 16 Procedural Steps***



# DINOTEFURAN – BIOCIDES – CASE STUDY

