

The EU Decision Making Process: When to Step In



PAC

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1. A Mechanical Approach

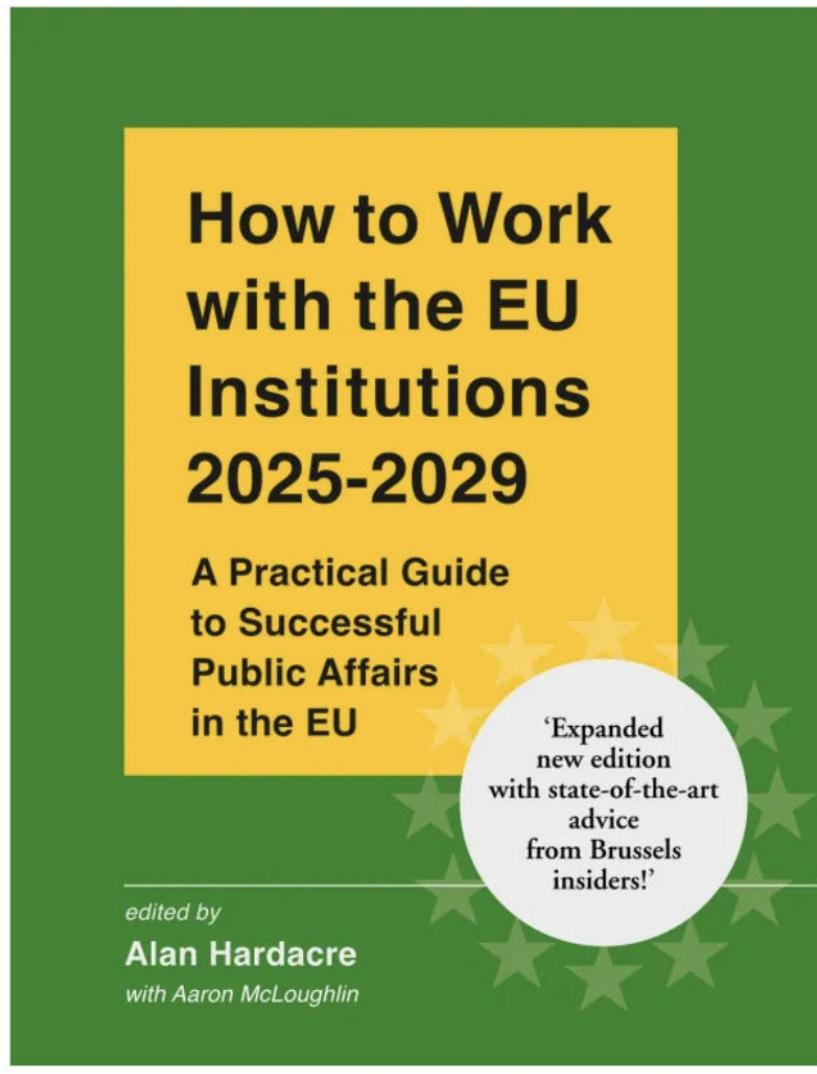
2. The Classical Approach: When to Engage with the Commission

- 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

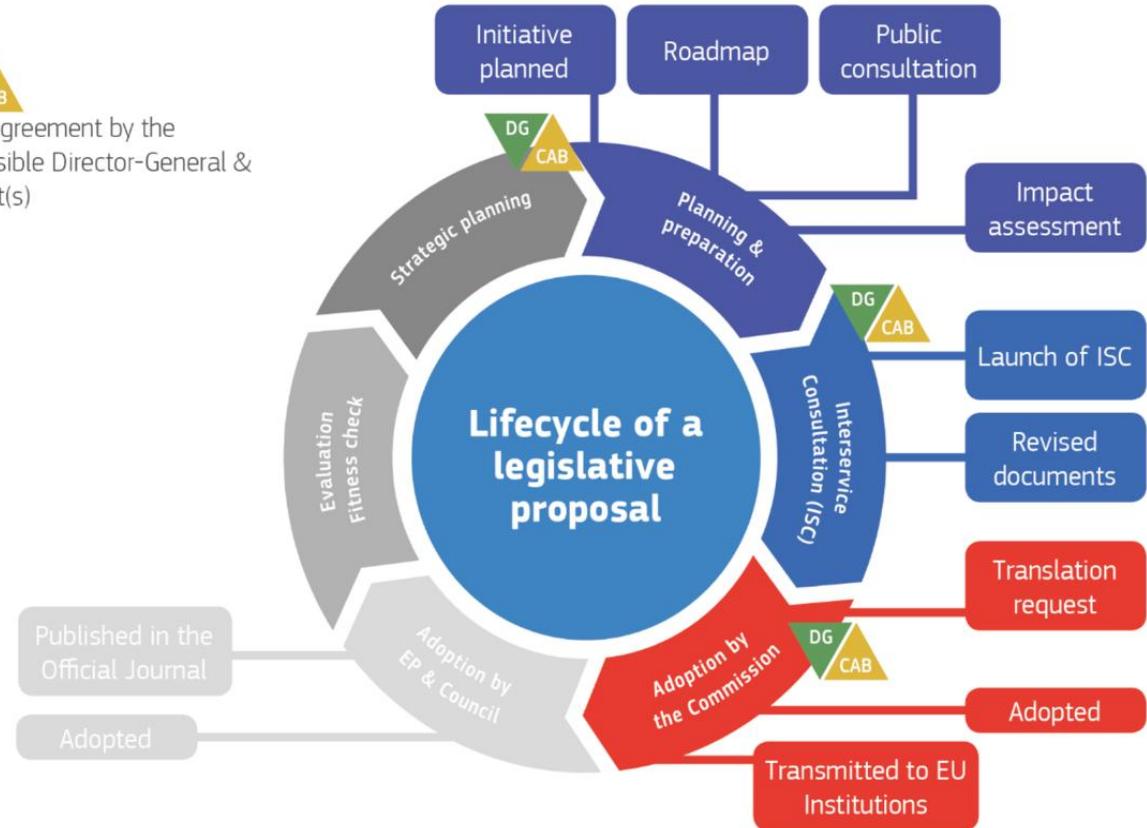
- The earlier you step in to influence a measure, the better.
- The windows of opportunity to influence a proposal are ‘lit up’ for you.
- There are a limited number of people you need to deal with.
- It is better/easier to try and influence the preparation than afterwards.
- You need credible evidence 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 Brussels	RSCC(s)	GRI				College (am)
	RSCC(s)			HEBDO (pm)		EXCO
When the College meets in Strasbourg (12x/year)	GRI					
	RSCC(s)	HEBDO (pm)			College (pm)	EXCO

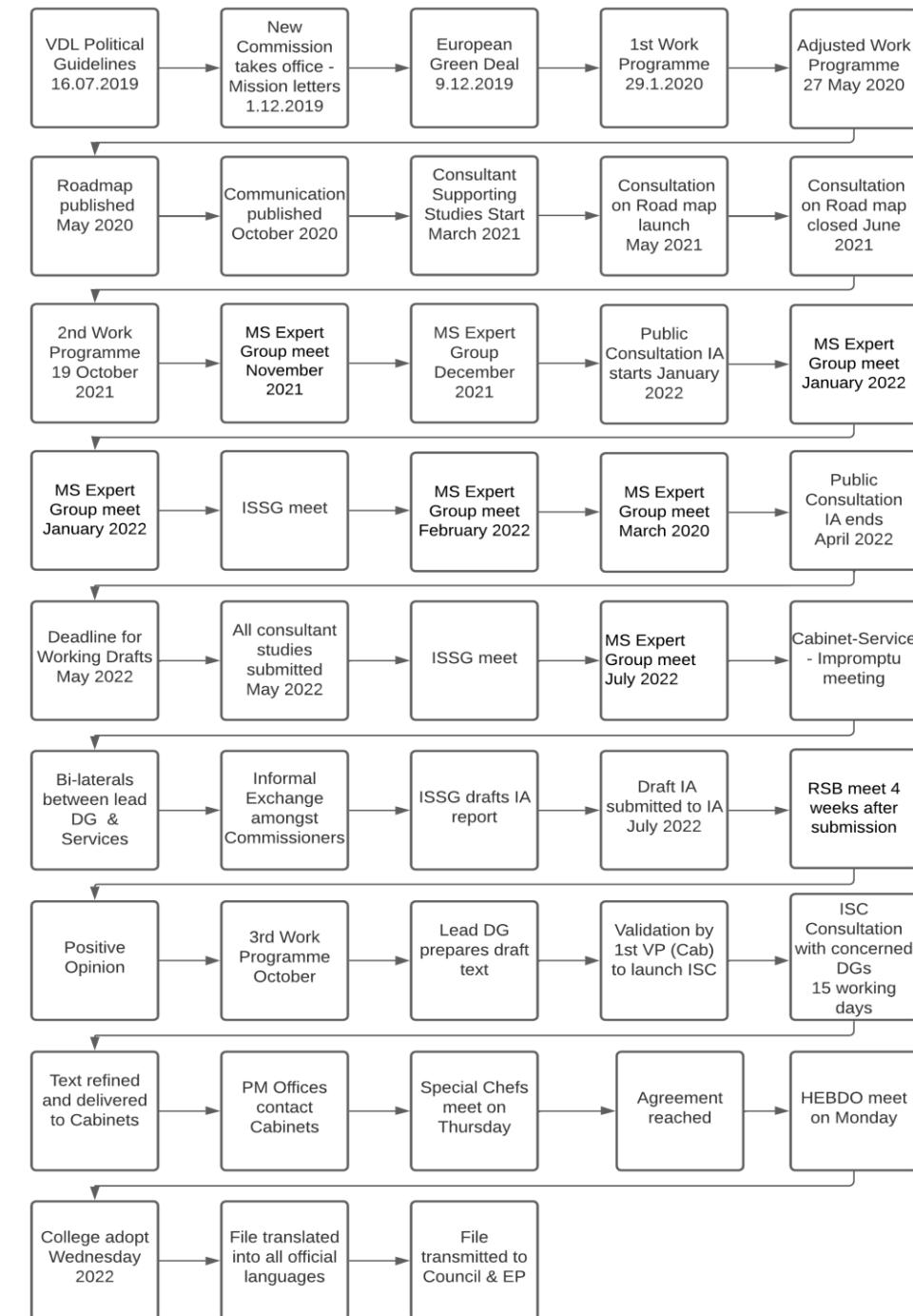
Possible items for Commission agendas 16 October – 25 November 2025

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/DOMBROVSKIS 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



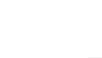
[Inter-Service Steering Group (ISSG) Inter-Service Consultation (ISC)]

- 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

Green Deal Communication 11 December 2019	CSS Communication 14 October 2020	2022 Work Programme 19 October 2021 - Q2 2022	Inception IA published 4 May 2021	ISSG meet 31 May 2021
CARACAL IA - Expert Group 29 June 2021	Feedback on IA ends 1 June 2021	12 week Public Consultation 9 August - 5 November 2021	ISSG meet 15 October 2021	October 2021, Studies Start
CARACAL - Revision 30 September 2021	RSB Upstream Meeting 6 October 2021	CARACAL - Revision 27 October 2021	Targeted Consultation - MS- 10 November - 22 December 2021	CARACAL - IA Expert Group 11 November 2021
CLP Public Consultation on Inception IA deadline 15. Nov 2021	Stakeholder Workshop 26 November 2021	CARACAL - Revision 6 December 2021	CARACAL - Revision 14 December 2021	ISSG meet 18 January 2022
ISSG meet 17 February 2022	Cabinet-Service - Impromptu meeting	ISSG meet 14 March 2022	Bilaterals between ENV & Services	ISSG meet 28 March 2022
ISSG meet 6 April 2022	CLP IA draft submission to RSB 13 April 2022	CLP RSB meeting on 11 May 2022	Positive with reservation Opinion 11 May CLP	Lead DGs prepares draft text CLP
Validation by 1st VP (Cab) to launch ISC CLP Written Procedure	ISC relevant DGs 15 working days > 20 pp - 7 November	Text refined and delivered to Cabinets	Special Chefs meet on Thursday	ISC ended on Friday 25 November 2022 + opinion
Published 19 December 2022	File translated into all official languages	File transmitted to Council & EP		

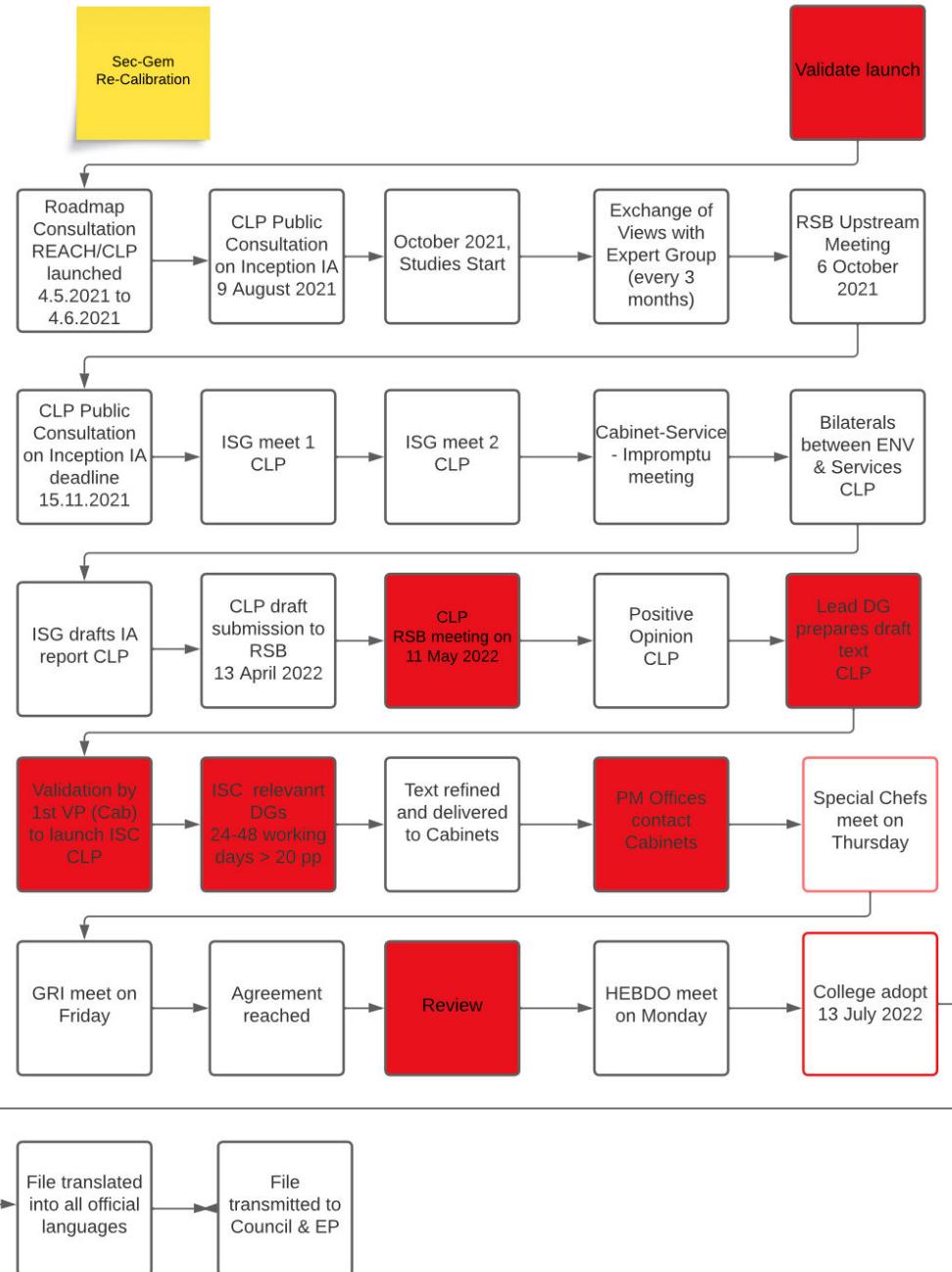
Agenda Setting (6 months)			Programming (6 months)			Internal Commission Work		
Council Strategic Agenda	President Political Guideline	Green Deal Communication	2020 Work Program	CSS Communication	2021 Work Program	Inception I.A.	ISGG Meets	CARACAL Meets
1 20 June 2019	2 16 July 2019	3 11 December 2019	4 28 January 2020	5 14 October 2020	6 19 October 2020	7 4 May 2021	8 21 May 2021	10 1 July 2021
Internal Commission Work (15 Months)								
12 CARACAL Meets	13 Impact Assessment Starts	14 RSB Informal Upstream Meetings	15 ISGG Meets	16 CARACAL Meets	17 6w Targeted Consultation	18 12w Public Consultation Ends.	19 CARACAL Meets	20 Stakeholder Workshop
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
Internal Commission Work								
23 ISGG Meets	24 ISGG Meets	25 Cabinets & Services Meeting	26 ISGG Meets	27 DG GROW/DG ENV Bilaterals	28 ISGG Meets	29 ISGG Meets	30 Impact Assessment Sent to RSB	31 RSB Meets / Opinion with Reservation
23 18 January 2022	24 17 February 2022	25	26 14 March 2022	27 14 March 2022	28 28 March 2022	29 6 April 2022	30 13 April 2022	31 6 April 2022
Final Political Validation								
34 Launch Interservice Consultation (24 DGs)	35 Text Refined & Delivered to Cabinets	36 Chef de Cabinet Meeting	37 Interservice Consultation Ends	38 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
34 7 November 2022	35	36 24 November 2022	37 25 November 2022	38 13 December 2022	39 19 December 2022	40 20 December 2022	41	42 24 January 2023
Ordinary Legislative Procedures Kick-Off								
45 WP Technical Harmonization	46 WP Technical Harmonization	47 WP Technical Harmonization	48 Feedback Period Ends	49 ENVI Meeting - Commission Present Proposal	50 Subsidiarity Check Ends	51 Rapporteur Publishes Draft Report	52 WP Technical Harmonization	53 WTO TBT Committee Notified
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
Legislative Amendments Phase								
56 ENVI Exchange of Views	57 EP Briefing on Impact Assessment	58 Deadline for Amendments ENVI	59 WP Technical Harmonization	60 Revised Presidency Compromised Published	61 WP Technical Harmonization	62 Revised Presidency Compromise Published	63 Annotation to Revised Presidency Compromise	64 WP Technical Harmonization
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 2022
Legislative Amendments Phase								
67 Special Agriculture Cttee Discussion on Non Paper	68 WP Technical Harmonization	69 Presidency Negotiation Mandate	70 AGRIFISH Council Exchange on Essential Oils	71 Council GA - Mandate for COREPER 1	72 Declaration by Germany	73 WTO TBT Consultation Ends	74 ENVI + Committee Report Tabled for Plenary	75 Plenary Amendment Published
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 11 September 2023	75 27 September 2023
Legislative Amendments								
77 Plenary	78 EP Negotiating Mandate Text	79 WP Technical Harmonization	80 4 Column Document Published	81 International Technical Meeting (ITM)	82 ITM	83 ITM	84 WP Technical Harmonization	85 ITM
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
Interinstitutional Negotiation								
88 COREPER Exchange of 4 Column Doc	89 ITM	90 First Trilogue Agreement	91 ITM	92 4 Column Document Agreed Position Published	93 ENVI Report Back on Negotiations	94 WP Technical Harmonization	95 Council Present Analysis of the Text	96 Text Published
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
Interinstitutional Negotiation								
98 COREPER Approves Text	99 Commission Respond to Text	100 EP 1st Reading Vote	101 COREPER Published List for Corrigendum Procedure	102 Deadline for Objection in EP	103 No Objection ENVI Committee	104 No Objection EP Plenary	105 Declaration by Slovakia	106 COREPER Approves Corrigendum
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
Adoption								
107 ENV COUNCIL APPROVES CORRIGENDUM TEXT	108 FINAL ACT SIGNED							
Publication & Entry into Force								
109 Publication in the Official Journal	110 Entry into Force							
109 20 November 2024	110 10 December 2024							
● Council ● Commission ● Parliament	● Trilogue  Communication  Political Agreement  Onfид Working Group/Meetings  Public Final Legal Text  Adoption or Working Document  Public Consultation  Deadline							



The New Approach

Key



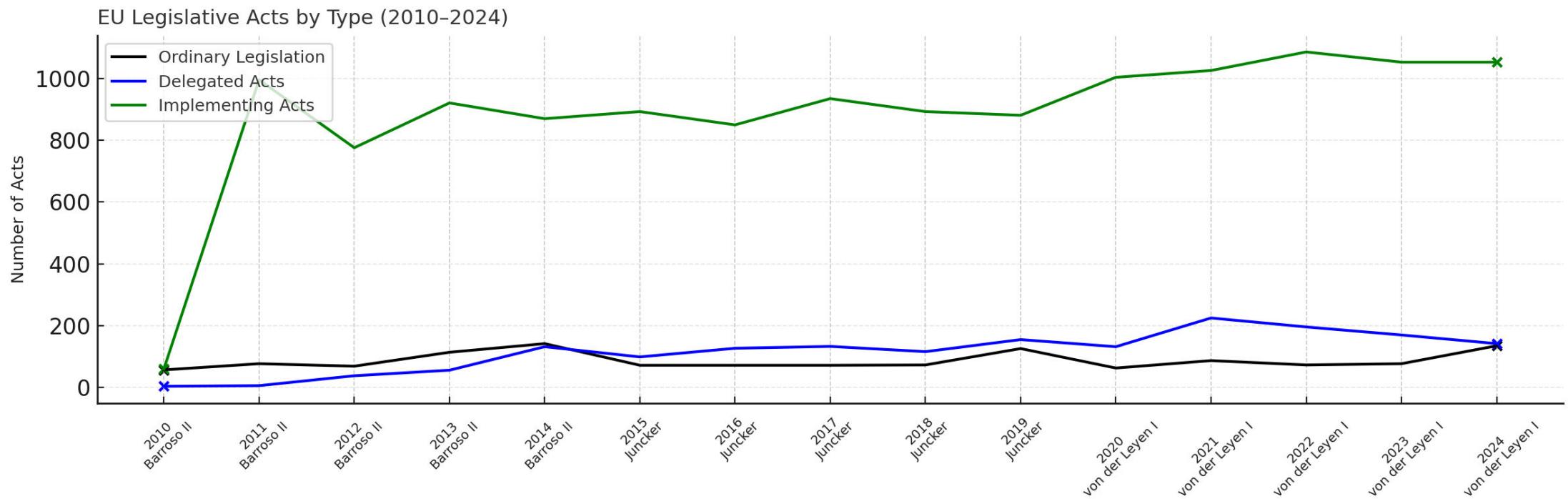


What's Changed

- **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

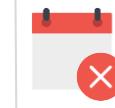
Secondary Legislation



Delegated act

CLH Dossier + Delegated Act (ATP 21)

Procedural Steps: 29

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

Member States
Commission
Parliament

ECHA



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

