# Evaluation of Regulation (EU) No 1025/2012 on European Standardisation

**Introduction**

This public consultation is being conducted as part of the evaluation of Regulation (EU) 1025/2012 in response to the EU strategy on standardisation presented by the European Commission (COM(2022) 31). The European Standardisation System (ESS) provides the framework for requesting EU standards and standardisation deliverables in support of EU public policy and legislative needs, covering a wide range of industrial ecosystems.

The evaluation assesses the performance of the ESS in the evolving landscape of technical standardisation. It determines whether the existing framework is adequate and capable of delivering standards and technical specifications to support EU policy and legislative needs, while also maintaining global relevance.

**Purpose and scope**

The objective of this public consultation is to gather insights from a range of stakeholders with direct or indirect involvement in the ESS. It will look into various aspects of the ESS, including its achievements, efficiency, impact, relevance, EU added value, and alignment with EU policies and instruments. The public consultation will also help in gathering qualitative and quantitative data underpinning these assessments.

The public consultation will inform the assessment on the functioning of Regulation (EU) 1025/2012, the cornerstone of the ESS.

Your participation in this survey is a valuable contribution to the evaluation of the ESS and the Regulation. It will also help in identifying possible areas for improvement.

**Data protection policy**

Before you begin the questionnaire, please carefully review and accept the privacy statement. This statement provides essential information on the use and handling of the data you provide. Your privacy and data protection are of the utmost importance.

Thank you for your participation in this evaluation. We look forward to your valuable insights and contribution.

\* **Which category best describes your role within the European Standardisation System (ESS)?**

O international standardisation body

O EU standardisation organisation

O representing societal stakeholders in line with the requirements outlined in Annex III of the Regulation O national standardisation body

O national authority / market surveillance authority

O other national authority

O industry association

O company

O research institution

O none of the above

\* **Regarding standardisation, in what ways do you / does your organisation participate in the ESS?**

'Please select all that apply.

☐ participation in standardisation activities at the EU level.

□ participation in standardisation activities at the national level.

□ direct use of standards

□ use of standards for public procurement

□ inform(s) others about standards

□ other (please specify) □ none of the above

**\* To what extent are you aware of Regulation (EU) 1025/2012 on European Standardisation and its main provisions?**

O to a large extent

O to a moderate extent

O to a small extent

O not at all

O I don't know

**General questions**

**To what extent has Regulation (EU) 1025/2012 achieved its general objectives?**

|  | to a large extent | to a moderate extent | to a small extent | not at all | I don't know |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| \*reduce the time taken by the standardisation process for standards developed at the request of the Commission | O | O | O | O | O |
| \*ensure that SMEs and societal stakeholders are adequately represented in the standardisation process, especially for standards developed at the request of the Commission | O | O | O | O | O |
| 'broaden the use of ICT standards and thus enhance interoperability through a more integrated European public procurement market for ICT products and Services | O | O | O | O | O |
| \*remove ambiguities in the previous legal framework related to the former co-existence of three different legal Instruments on EU standardisation (Decisions 87/95/EEC and 1673/2006/EC and Directive 98/34/EC) | O | 0 | O | O | O |

\* Could you please explain your response in detail?

**\* To what extent has the process defined by the Regulation facilitated the identification of ICT technical specification for public procurement referencing, and made the overall public procurement process more efficient?**

O to a large extent

O to a moderate extent

O to a small extent

O not at all

O I don't know.

**Could you please explain your response in detail?¨**

**In your opinion, where has Regulation (EU) 1025/2012 provided most added value (compared with not having this legal framework in place)?**

'Please select 'yes', 'no' or 'I don't know' for each item.

| | Yes | No | I don't know |
|---|---|---|---|
| *facilitation of conformity assessment procedures in the internal market via the development of harmonised standards | O | O | O |
| *facilitation of product compliance in the EU | O | O | O |
| *removal of trade barriers | O | O | O |
| *reduction of transaction costs | O | O | O |
| 'increased level of interoperability | O | O | O |
| 'increased adoption of a common technical language in the EU market | O | O | O |
| *increased opportunities to introduce products and Services into the internal market | O | O | O |
| 'development of EU standards with global signalling effect | O | O | O |
| 'facilitated alignment of EU and international standards | O | O | O |
| 'other (please specify) | O | O | O |

**To what extent are the provisions of the Regulation suitable for addressing the wider strategic objectives, as outlined in the 2022 EU strategy on standardisation (COM(2022) 31)?**

| | to a large extent | to a moderate extent | to a small extent | not at all | I don't know |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| *the Regulation contributes to the development of future market needs, particularly as regards the establishment of new value chains for a resilient, green and digital internal market | O | O | O | O | O |
| *the Regulation contributes to the development of standards when there is an urgent market need | O | O | 0 | O | O |
| *the Regulation contributes to the development of Services standards | O | O | O | O | 0 |
| *the Regulation allows integrity, inclusiveness and accessibility in the ESS, including fair representation of all societal stakeholders | O | O | O | O | O |
| *the Regulation helps EU stakeholders take a prominent role in global standards-setting | O | O | O | O | O |
| *the Regulation contributes to the promotion of EU democratic values, including at global level | O | 0 | O | O | O |
| *the Regulation contributes to ensuring that cutting-edge research and innovation inputs are provided in the standards-development process | O | O | O | O | O |

**Specific questions: Speed and timeliness**

**To what extent are you satisfied with the development time of EU harmonised standards?**

*Rate your level of agreement with the following statements.

| | strongly disagree | disagree | neither agree nor disagree | agree | strongly agree | I don't know. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| *the time taken to develop harmonised standards is efficient | O | O | O | O | O | O |
| *the collaborative standard development does not unnecessarily extend the duration | O | O | O | O | O | O |
| *the standards are developed in a time frame that allows timely implementation in relevant Industries | O | O | O | O | O | O |
| •the duration of the development process provides ample time for clear communication and preparation for implementation | O | O | O | O | O | O |
| •there is sufficient time for thorough feedback and revisions during the standard development process | O | O | O | O | O | O |
| •compared with other standard-setting processes, the duration for developing harmonised standards is satisfactory | O | O | O | O | O | O |
| •the time taken to develop harmonised standards is consistent with bringing innovation to the market | O | O | O | O | O | O |

**Could you please explain your response in detail?**

**How important are the following aspects of the governance of the ESS in accelerating the development of harmonised standards?**

'Please rate the level of importance of the following processes.

| | not at all important | slightly important | moderately | very important | extremely important | I don't know. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| *coordination between ESOs, NSBs and the Commission (including collaboration on drafting standards) | O | O | O | O | O | O |
| *the clarity of the Commission's strategic objectives for the European Standardisation formulated through the annual EU work programme on EU standardisation | O | O | O | O | O | O |
| ◆societal stakeholder engagement and participation in standardisation activities | O | O | O | O | O | O |
| *the process of standardisation requests | O | O | O | O | O | O |
| *the process of standards-development | O | O | O | O | O | O |
| *the process of citation of standards-deliverables | O | O | O | O | O | O |
| *the availability and use of EU financing | O | O | O | O | O | O |

**To what extent do you perceive barriers within the current governance of the ESS that affect the speed of harmonised standard development?**

'Please rate your level of agreement with the following statements.

| | strongly disagree | disagree | neither agree nor disagree | agree | strongly agree | I don't know |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| *there are additional obligations and administrative delays that hinder a speedy development of harmonised standards | O | O | O | O | O | O |
| *the internal procedures within the European standardisation organisations are burdensome | O | O | O | O | O | O |
| *the additional requirements from the Commission to allow the citation of harmonised standards are too burdensome | O | O | O | O | O | O |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| *poor communication and coordination among stakeholders within the system leads to a slow standard development process | O | O | O | O | O | O |
| ♦insufficient allocation of resources (such as funding, personnel and Information) within Systems impedes the rapid development of harmonised standards | O | O | O | O | O | O |
| *the lack of technical experts leads to a slow standards-development process | O | O | 0 | O | O | O |
| *the absence of clear and decisive leadership and responsibility in the standards-development process is an impediment and leads to a slower process of developing harmonised standards | O | O | O | O | O | O |
| *the discrepancy between policy and stakeholder needs for the standards-deliverable leads to a slower process | O | O | O | O | O | O |

**Specific questions: Competitiveness of European businesses**

**To what extent do you agree/disagree with the following statements about EU standards and standardisation deliverables' impact on in the competitiveness of EU businesses within the internal market?**

'Please rate your level of agreement with the following statements.

| | strongly disagree | disagree | neither agree nor disagree | agree | strongly agree | I don't know |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| •European standards and standardisation deliverables facilitate cross-border activities and trade in the internal market | O | O | O | O | O | O |
| ♦European standards and standardisation deliverables facilitate the market deployment of innovative technologies | O | O | O | O | O | O |
| ♦European standards and standardisation deliverables reduce production costs for companies | O | O | O | O | O | O |
| ♦European standards and standardisation deliverables reduce compliance costs for companies | O | O | O | O | O | O |
| ♦European standards and standardisation deliverables increase interoperability of components and products | O | O | O | O | O | O |
| ♦European standards and standardisation deliverables facilitate access to the EU market for SMEs | O | O | O | O | O | O |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ♦European standards and standardisation deliverables enhance companies' growth (e.g. market share) | O | O | O | O | O | O |
| ♦European standards and standardisation deliverables enhance companies' productivity | O | O | O | O | O | O |

**Specific questions: Support to EU policy and legislation**

**In your view, how effective is the Regulation in developing European standards in support of EU legislation and policies?**

'Please rate the impact for each of the following goals.

| | very high | high | moderate | low | very low | I don't know |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ♦in response to new policies and legislation supporting standardisation | O | O | O | O | O | O |
| ♦in ensuring timely delivery of requested standards and standardisation deliverables | O | O | O | O | O | O |
| ♦in anticipating strategic future market needs in standardisation | O | O | O | O | O | O |
| ♦in improving product safety | O | O | O | O | O | O |
| ♦in improving sustainability | O | O | O | O | O | O |
| ♦in fostering interoperability between ICT systems | O | O | O | O | O | O |
| ♦in ensuring adherence to EU democratic values | O | O | O | O | O | O |

**Inclusiveness of the European Standardisation process**

**To what extent do you believe that Regulation (EU) 1025/2012 has ensured the engagement and effective participation of the following stakeholders?**

| | strongly disagree | disagree | neither agree nor disagree | agree | strongly agree | I don't know |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| *SMEs and start-ups | O | O | O | O | O | O |
| ♦societal stakeholders | O | O | O | O | O | O |
| *the research/academic community | O | O | O | O | O | O |
| ♦Member States' public authorities | O | O | O | O | O | O |

**In your opinion, what is the level of representation and engagement in the development of the following types of standards?** '

Please rate the impact of each of the following types of standards.

| very high | high | moderate | low | very low | I don't know. |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ♦standards for Services | O | O | O | O | O | O |
| ♦standards for products | O | O | O | O | O | O |
| ♦standards to improve interoperability | O | O | O | O | O | O |

**Specific questions: Competitiveness of European businesses at global level**

**To what extent do you agree/disagree with the following statements about European standards and standardisation deliverables' impact on to the competitiveness of EU businesses at the global level?**

'Please rate your level of agreement with the following statements.

| | strongly disagree | disagree | neither agree nor disagree | agree | strongly agree | I don't know |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| ♦European standards and standardisation deliverables facilitate market access outside the EU/EEA | O | O | O | O | O | O |
| *European standards and standardisation deliverables facilitate the establishment of business partnerships around the globe | O | O | O | O | O | O |
| *European standards and standardisation deliverables facilitate innovation in EU businesses | O | O | O | O | O | O |
| *European standards and standardisation deliverables enhance the cost-competitiveness of EU businesses | O | O | O | O | O | O |
| *European standards and standardisation deliverables improve the price-competitiveness of EU businesses | O | O | O | O | O | O |

**Specific questions: Policy coherence**

**Can you identify any new policy area where the ESS should improve its presence?**

'Please select 'yes', 'no', 'I don't know' for each item.

| | Yes | No | I don't know |
|---|---|---|---|
| *artificial intelligence | O | O | O |
| *quantum computing | O | O | O |
| *blockchain and distributed ledger technologies | O | O | O |
| *the Internet of Things (IoT) | O | O | O |
| *5G and future telecommunication networks | O | O | O |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ◆autonomous vehicles | O | O | O |
| *biotechnology and gene editing | O | O | O |
| *renewable energy technologies | O | O | O |
| *nanotechnology cybersecurity | O | O | O |
| *smart cities technologies | O | O | O |
| *digital health | O | O | O |
| *sustainable manufacturing and the circular economy | O | O | O |
| *space technologies, in-orbit Services and commercial spaceflight | O | O | O |
| *robotics | O | O | O |
| *new materials | O | O | O |
| *defence | O | O | O |
| *other (please specify) | O | O | O |

**In your view, what are the barriers preventing the ESS from extending its reach into these technical areas?**

*Please rate your level of agreement with the following statements.

| | strongly disagree | disagree | neither agree nor disagree | agree strongly | agree | I don't know |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| lack of experts to run new ESO technical committees | O | O | O | O | O | O |
| lack of financial resources to run new ESO technical committees | O | O | O | O | O | O |
| lack of interest of industry or other stakeholders in providing experts | O | O | O | O | O | O |
| lack of cooperation with other specialised standards-setting bodies | O | O | O | O | O | O |
| lack of consensus between the different actors of the ESS | O | O | O | O | O | O |
| national interests in developing national standards | O | O | O | O | O | O |
| primacy of intemational standards | O | O | O | O | O | O |
| existence of other standard-developing bodies | O | O | O | O | O | O |
| timespan to develop and adopt EU standards | O | O | O | O | O | O |
| other (please specify) | O | O | O | O | O | O |

**Final section**

**Considering the need for the ESS to adapt to a rapidly changing environment and support the EU's strategic goals, what action areas do you consider essential?**

*Please rate your level of agreement with the following statements.

|  | strongly disagree | disagree | neither agree nor disagree | agree | Strongly agree | I don't know |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| future standardisation needs and expediting the standard development process to spur innovation and prevent others from gaining a competitive edge | O | O | O | O | O | O |
| promoting stakeholder involvement and inclusivity in order to ensure standards meet market and consumer demands | O | O | O | O | O | O |
| improving cooperation, coordination and communication between standardisation bodies in the EU | O | O | O | O | O | O |
| raising awareness of the benefits of standardisation for competitiveness and innovation and sustainability | O | O | O | O | O | O |
| adapting the ESO/NSB network organisation and procedures for future needs, especially in technology convergence | O | O | O | O | O | O |

In addition to the responses and comments already provided in response to this questionnaire, please use the space below for any additional remarks you wish to make.