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Insights

# Making sense of the new Commission's Working Methods

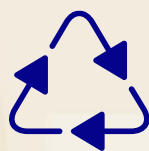
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## I. Increased Transparency



All Commission officials down to Head of Unit level will need to **record their meetings** with registered lobbyists. On top of disclosing basic information (date, purpose, participants, topics discussed), minutes will be published, listing the main points raised and positions expressed. This extra requirement could discourage officials from accepting meeting requests and lead to greater use of events and policy dialogue to gather information. It also requires more preparation before bilateral meetings.



## II. SME and Competitiveness Check

New policies will now undergo evaluations to assess **impact on SMEs** and competitiveness together with an impact assessment. To win on regulatory adjustments look for the SME angle - it will also win you support from the EPP who position themselves as SME champions.



## III. Dialogues on Implementation with Stakeholders

These dialogues are about information gathering via **direct communication with stakeholders**. This increased emphasis on communication and events means that government affairs will require more communication exercises.



## IV. Yearly Follow-up to EU Citizens' Panels' Recommendations

The Commission will annually review and respond to recommendations from European Citizens' Panels, emphasizing **participatory democracy**, thereby creating a significant lobbying opportunity. It should also open doors to MEPs who champion citizens' panels.

## V. Annual Reports on Enforcement and Implementation



The Commission will provide **yearly updates** to European Parliament Committees and Council formations on the enforcement and implementation of EU laws and policies. This opens opportunities for feedback with practical examples of where EU laws aren't working and offering solutions. EP committees, short of legislative proposals, will also increase their scrutiny of underperforming laws.

## VI. Increased cooperation with the European Parliament



By strengthening the European Parliament's right of initiative (art. 225 TEU) and giving it a **greater role** on emergency proposals under art. 122 TFEU. These will be strongly resisted by the Council which sees them as upsetting the institutional balance. We will need to pay more attention to EP legislative own initiative reports which could well end up as EU laws.

## VII. Annual Youth Policy Dialogues



These dialogues are designed to **engage young citizens in policy discussions**, ensuring their perspectives are included in EU policymaking. Partnering with suitable youth organizations could be a good idea.

## VIII. Simplification



The Commission will apply the "**one in, one out**" principle while the EPP is pushing for a "one in, two out". Businesses should keep an eye out on burdensome laws that could be repealed.



# Get in touch with our experts

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