



Policy Shaping in the EEA and the role of the Secretariat

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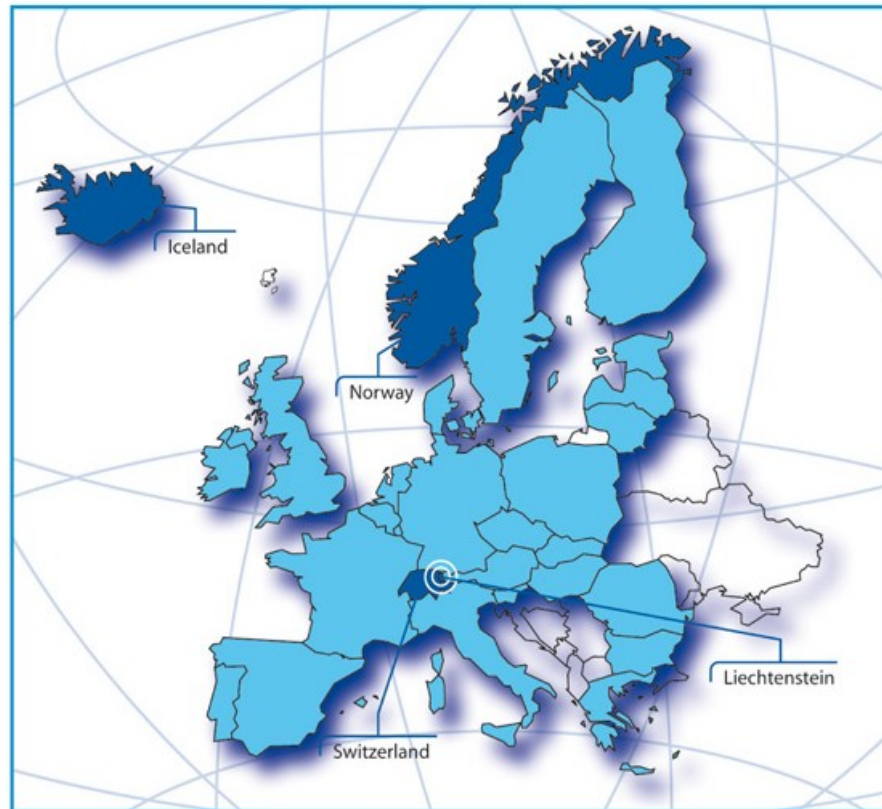
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EFTA and the EU 2009





What is the EEA?

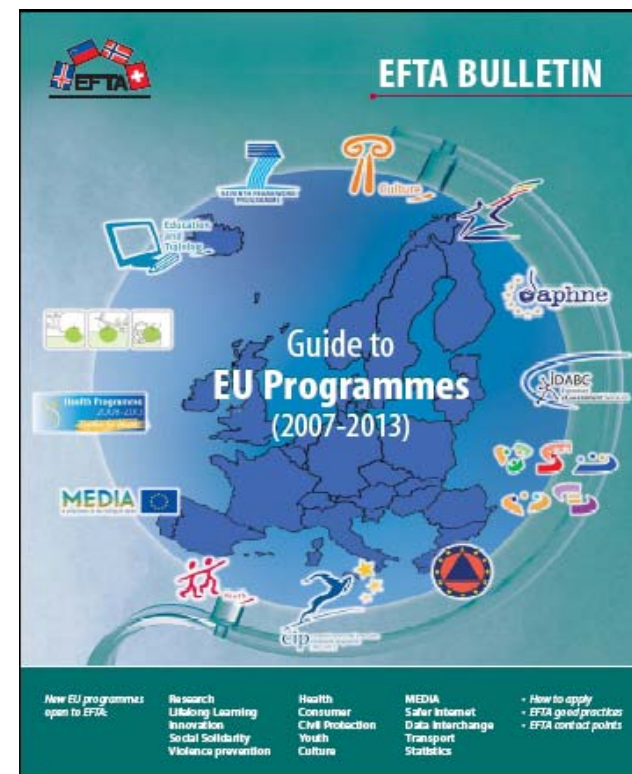
- Four freedoms:
 - *Free movement of goods*
 - *Free movement of services*
 - *Free movement of persons*
 - *Free movement of capital*
- Competition and state aid
- Cooperation outside the four freedoms:
 - *Participation in EU programmes and agencies*





EU Programmes 2007-2013

- 7th Research Framework Programme (FP 7)
- Competitiveness and Innovation Programme (CIP)
- Lifelong learning (LLL)
- Culture
- Youth in action
- Media
- Daphne III: combating violence
- Employment and Social Solidarity (Progress)
- Health
- Consumer
- Safer Internet
- Marco Polo II
- Rapid response instrument for major emergencies
- Civil Protection
- Erasmus Mundus
- Statistics
- Drug prevention
- European years



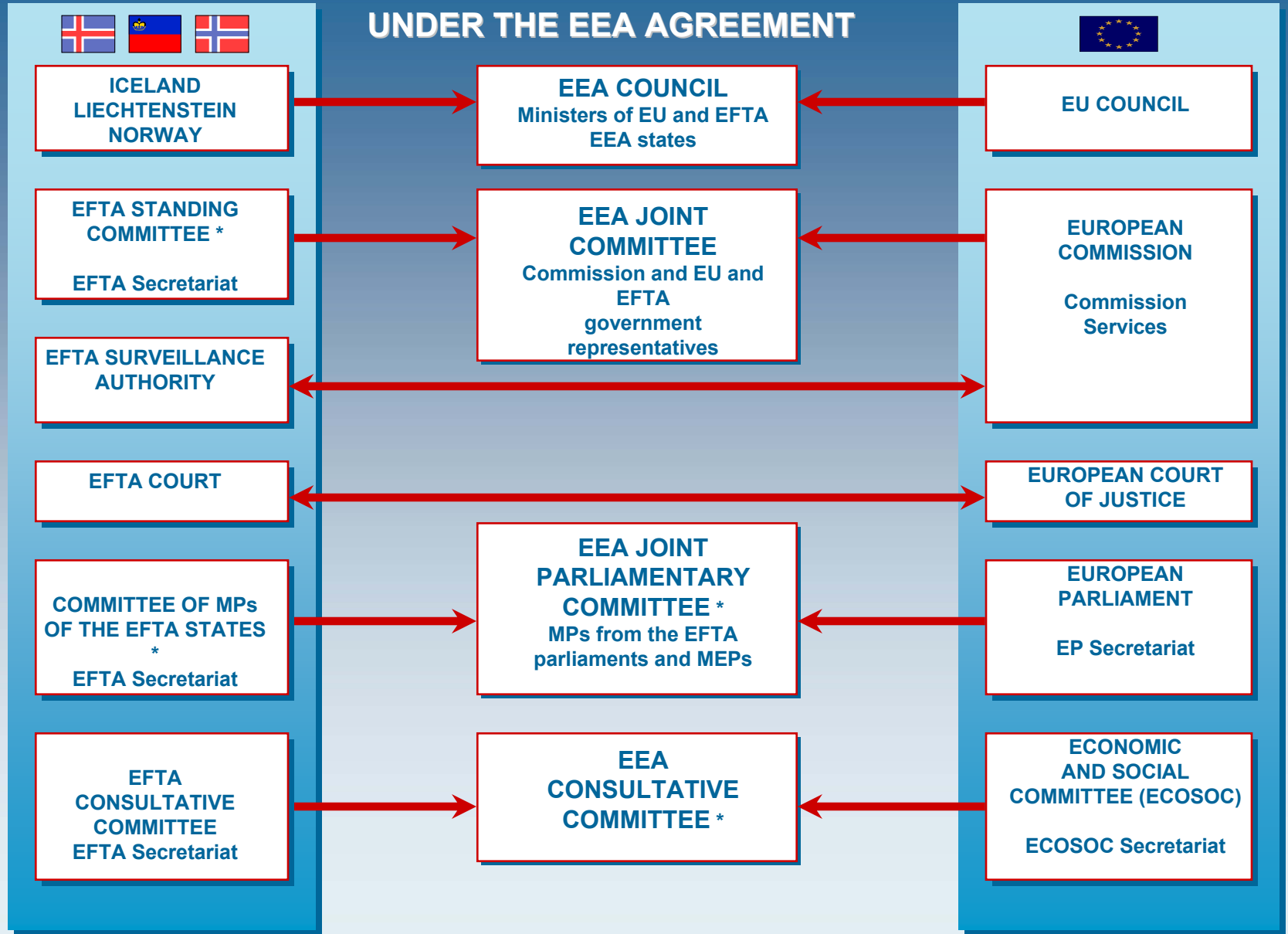


The EEA does not cover

- Customs Union
- Common Agricultural and Fisheries Policies
- Economic and Monetary Union
- Common Foreign, Security and Defence Policy
- Justice and Home Affairs



THE TWO PILLAR STRUCTURE UNDER THE EEA AGREEMENT



* Switzerland has observer status



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
EXTERNAL RELATIONS DIRECTORATE GENERAL

Brussels, 25 May 2009

EEA JOINT COMMITTEE

ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY SECOND MEETING

Friday 29 May 2009, at 10.00 a.m.,
in the Berlaymont Building, 200 rue de la Loi 1049 Brussels,
in room WHALL

President: Mr Alan Scatter (Commission)

Provisional Agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Approval of the Minutes of the 151st meeting of 24 April 2009
3. Minutes of meetings of Subcommittee I of 12 May 2009 and of Subcommittees II-III-IV of 2 April and 14 May 2009.
4. Decisions
 - Decision No 55/2009 amending Annex I (Veterinary and phytosanitary matters) to the EEA Agreement – Commission Regulation (EC) No 289/2008 (susceptible species in relation to bluetongue), Commission Regulation (EC) No 384/2008 (exempting pregnant animals from the exit ban), Commission Decision 2008/185/EC (additional guarantees in intra-Community trade in pigs), Commission Decision 2008/220/EC (eradication and emergency vaccination plans), Commission Decision 2008/239/EC (additional guarantees in intra-Community trade in bovine animals), Commission Decision 2008/234/EC (certain administrative regions of Poland are officially free of enzootic bovine leucosis), Commission Decision 2008/330/EC (list of laboratories)
 - Decision No 56/2009 amending Annex I (Veterinary and phytosanitary matters) to the EEA Agreement – Commission Decision 2008/77/EC (eradication of classical swine fever in feral pigs), Commission Decision 2008/88/EC (eradication of classical swine fever in feral pigs), Commission Decision 2008/97/EC (declaration that certain administrative regions in Italy are officially free of bovine tuberculosis), Commission Decision 2008/159/EC (eradication of classical swine fever in feral pigs)
 - Decision No 57/2009 amending Annex I (Veterinary and phytosanitary matters) to the EEA Agreement – Commission Regulation (EC) No 72/2008 (authorisation of feed additive), Commission Regulation (EC) No 97/2008 (additive in feedstuffs), Commission Regulation (EC) No 976/2008 (authorisation of feed additive), Commission Directive 2008/76/EC (undesirable substances in animal feed), Commission Directive 2008/82/EC (chronic renal insufficiency)
 - Decision No 58/2009 amending Annex I (Veterinary and phytosanitary matters) and Annex II (Technical regulations, standards, testing and certification) to the EEA Agreement – Commission Regulation (EC) No 149/2008 (maximum residue limits), Commission Regulation (EC) No 260/2008 (active substance/product combination), Commission Regulation (EC) No 89/2008 (maximum residue levels of pesticides)
 - Decision No 59/2009 amending Annex II (Technical regulations, standards, testing and certification) to the EEA Agreement – EP and Council Directive 2008/121/EC (textile names) (repeal)
5. Entry into force of the Food Law package of 26 October 2007
6. Access for EEA EFTA citizens to work in the European Commission's Executive Agencies
7. Other business
 - Decision No 60/2009 amending Annex II (Technical regulations, standards, testing and certification) to the EEA Agreement – Commission Regulation (EC) No 188/2006 (maximum levels for certain contaminants), Commission Regulation (EC) No 1126/2007 (maximum levels for certain contaminants), Commission Regulation (EC) No 629/2008 (maximum levels for certain contaminants)
 - Decision No 61/2009 amending Annex II (Technical regulations, standards, testing and certification) to the EEA Agreement – EP and Council Regulation (EC) No 726/2004 (authentication and supervision of medicinal products), EP and Council Directive 2004/27/EC (Community code relating to medicinal products), EP and Council Directive 2004/28/EC (Community code relating to veterinary medicinal products), EP and Council Directive 2004/24/EC (traditional herbal medicinal products), Commission Regulation (EC) No 2049/2005 (payment of fees to, and the receipt of administrative assistance from, the European Medicines Agency), Commission Regulation (EC) No 307/2006 (conditional marketing authorisations for medicinal products)
 - Decision No 62/2009 amending Annex II (Technical regulations, standards, testing and certification) to the EEA Agreement – Commission Directive 2005/28/EC (good clinical practice), Commission Regulation (EC) No 1277/2005 (Drug precursors), Council Regulation (EC) No 1905/2005 (fees payable to the European Medicines Agency)
 - Decision No 63/2009 amending Annex XIII (Transport) to the EEA Agreement – EP and Council Directive 2008/96/EC (road infrastructure safety management)
 - Decision No 64/2009 amending Annex XIII (Transport) to the EEA Agreement – EP and Council Directive 2008/106/EC (minimum level of training of seafarers)
 - Decision No 65/2009 amending Annex XIII (Transport) to the EEA Agreement – EP and Council Directive 2005/35/EC (ship-source pollution and the introduction of penalties for infringements)
 - Decision No 66/2009 amending Annex XIII (Transport) to the EEA Agreement – Commission Regulation (EC) No 859/2008 (commercial transportation by aeroplane)
 - Decision No 67/2009 amending Annex XIII (Transport) to the EEA Agreement – Commission Regulation (EC) No 820/2008 (common basic standards in aviation security)
 - Decision No 68/2009 amending Annex XIII (Transport) to the EEA Agreement – Commission Decision C (2008) 4333 final (additional measures for the implementation of the common basic standards on aviation security)
 - Decision No 69/2009 amending Annex XIII (Transport) to the EEA Agreement – EP and Council Regulation (EC) No 300/2008 (common rules in the field of civil aviation security)
 - Decision No 70/2009 amending Annex XIII (Transport) to the EEA Agreement – Commission Regulation (EC) No 1056/2008 (airworthiness of aircraft), Commission Regulation (EC) No 1057/2008 (Airworthiness Review Certificate)
 - Decision No 71/2009 amending Annex XIII (Transport) to the EEA Agreement – Commission Regulation (EC) No 298/2009 (operating ban within the Community)
 - Decision No 72/2009 amending Annex XX (Environment) to the EEA Agreement – Commission Decision 2008/889/EC (Community eco-label to certain products)
 - Decision No 73/2009 amending Annex XXI (Statistics) to the EEA Agreement – Commission Decision 2008/861/EC (rules for implementing Council Directive 95/64/EC)
 - Decision No 74/2009 amending Annex XXII (Company Law) to the EEA Agreement – Commission Regulation (EC) No 1126/2008 (international accounting standards), Commission Regulation (EC) No 1260/2008 (international accounting standards), Commission Regulation (EC) No 1261/2008 (international accounting standards), Commission Regulation (EC) No 1262/2008 (international accounting standards), Commission Regulation (EC) No 1263/2008 (international accounting standards), Commission Regulation (EC) No 1274/2008 (international accounting standards), Commission Regulation (EC) No 35/2009 (international accounting standards), Commission Regulation (EC) No 69/2009 (international accounting standards), Commission Regulation (EC) No 70/2009 (international accounting standards)
 - Decision No 75/2009 amending Protocol 31 to the EEA Agreement – EP and Council Decision No 1251/2008/EC (Community programme on protecting children using Internet and other communication technologies)

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STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE EFTA STATES

Committees of Members of Parliament

Consultative Committee

Group on the Lisbon Process and Other Horizontal Policy Issues

Subcommittee I	Subcommittee II	Subcommittee III	Subcommittee IV	Subcommittee V
Free Movement of Goods	Free Movement of Capital and Services	Free Movement of Persons	Flanking and Horizontal Policies	Legal and Institutional Matters
<p>WORKING GROUPS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Competition Policy • Customs Matters • Efficient Trade Procedures • Energy Matters • Feedingstuffs • Fisheries • Intellectual Property • Plant Health • Processed Agricultural Products • Product Liability • Public Procurement • State Aid • Technical Barriers to Trade • Veterinary Matters 	<p>WORKING GROUPS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audio-visual Services • Company Law • Financial Services • Information and Telecom Services • Postal Services • Transport 	<p>WORKING GROUPS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Free Movement of Workers and Employment • Mutual Recognition of Diplomas • Social Security 	<p>WORKING GROUPS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budgetary Matters • Civil Protection • Consumer Protection • Cultural Affairs • The Disabled, the Elderly and Social Exclusion • Education, Training and Youth • Enterprises • Environment • Gender Equality and Family Policy • Heads of Nat. Stat. Institutes • Health and Safety at Work and Labour Law • IDA • Public Health • Research and Development 	
Ad hoc Working Group on Services in the Internal Market				



EFTA Advisory Bodies : Committees of Members of Parliament

- **Scrutinise EFTA policies and EEA legislation**
- **Raise awareness of important issues**
- **Build a political consensus**
- **Advocate for the EEA in the national parliaments**
- **Facilitate political dialogue**

→ *Meeting with EFTA Ministers*

→ *Meeting with EFTA Social partners*

→ *Meeting with representatives from the EEA Council and JC*

→ *Meeting with Members of the European Parliament*



EFTA Advisory Bodies : Consultative Committee

- **Shape EFTA and EEA policies**
 - **Influence relevant policies**
 - **Raise awareness of important issues**
 - **Provide forum for dialogue**
-
- *Meeting with EFTA Ministers*
 - *Meeting with EFTA Ambassadors*
 - *Meeting with EFTA parliamentarians*
 - *Meeting with EU social partners*



Decision shaping - outline

- EU legislation and the EEA
- Decision shaping
 - Definition
 - Importance
 - Access
 - Overview of process
 - Best practice examples
 - Advice for decision shapers



Decision shaping - definition

- **An EEA EFTA invention**

- **Broadly defined in Decision Shaping Bulletin 2009:**

- Process (formal/informal) of contributing to and influencing EU policy proposals

- Includes all EFTA- and EU institutions, NGOs etc

- Includes legislation, broader EU policies, "soft law"

- Includes all stages of the process

- **Important that we are proactive/flexible since EU is constantly changing**



Decision shaping - at the core of EEA EFTA Member States' priorities

- Norwegian Chair EFTA Standing Committee, Work Programme autumn 2009:
 - “Promote EEA EFTA participation in EEA-relevant EU bodies and fora”
 - “Be actively involved **in all stages** of EEA-relevant legislation and actions...”



Decision shaping – access varies as to who we are approaching

- Commission – right to participate, but not to vote
 - Art. 99 Expert groups
 - Art. 100 Comitology committees
 - Art. 101 Other (advisory) groups
 - EU acts Agencies (regulatory and executive)

- European Parliament – no access, but open process

- Council – no access, but approach informally



Agencies

- European Environment Agency (EEA)
- European Network and Information Security Agency (ENISA)
- European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC)
- European Medicines Agency (EMA)
- European Railway Agency (ERA)
- European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA)
- European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA)
- European Chemicals Agency (ECHA)
- *European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)*



Decision shaping - cooperate through EFTA

Why?

- EFTA is a good brand name
- EFTA Secretariat is present in Brussels
 - We follow the EU decision cycle continuously

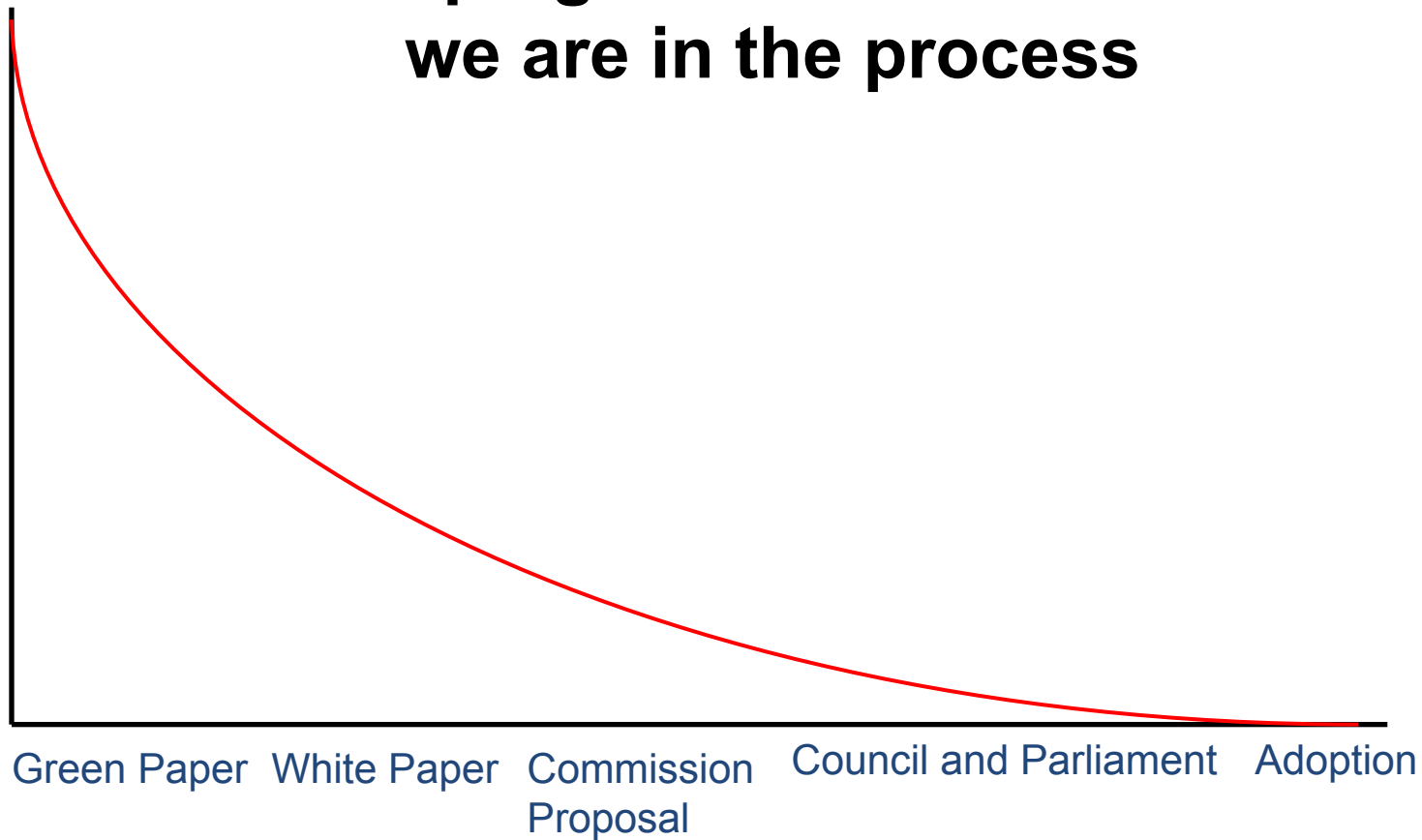
How?

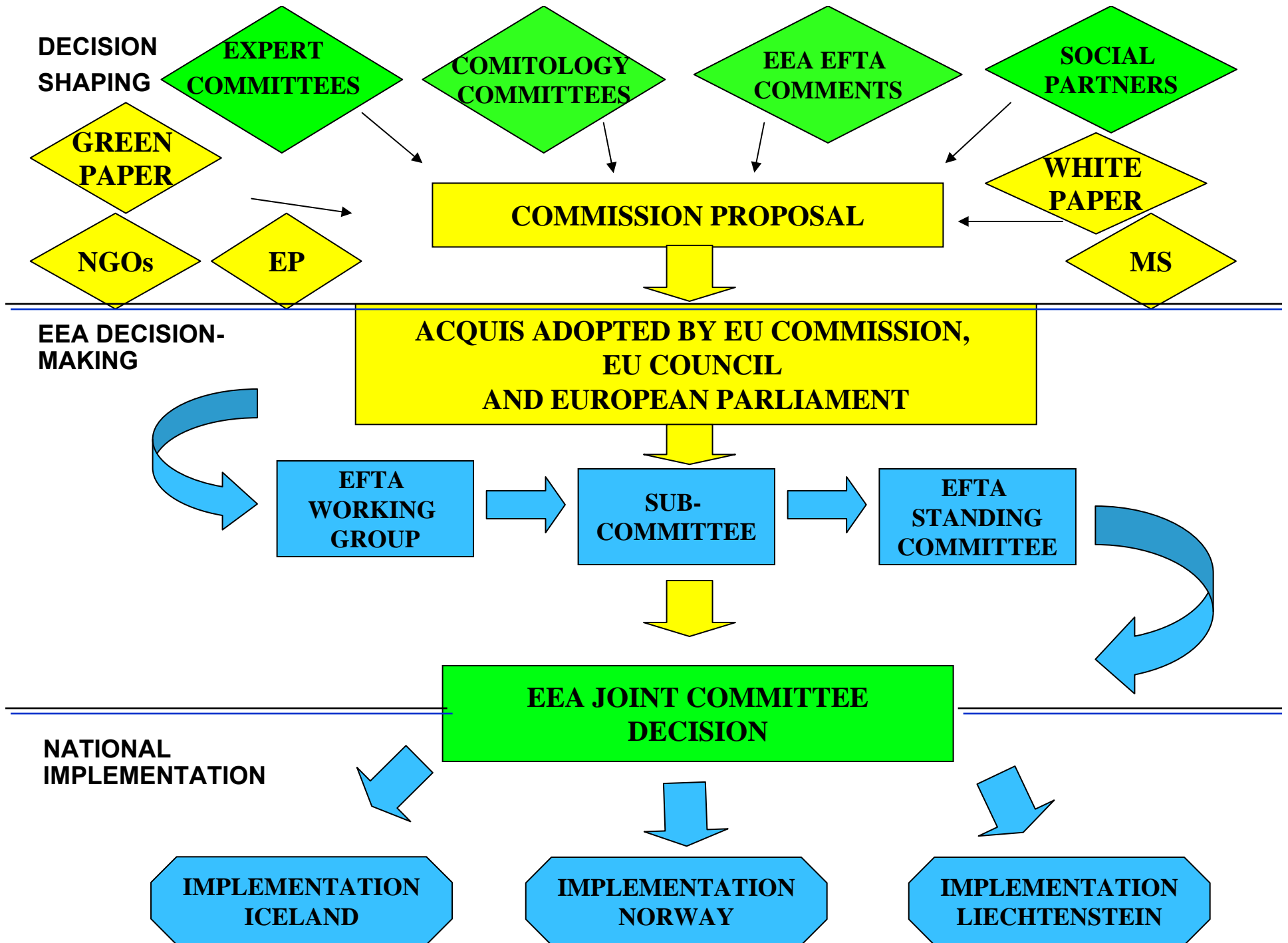
→ EEA EFTA comments:

- Time consuming to prepare (?) - easier to update
- Efficient:
 - Considered by the European Commission
 - Reach all EU Member States (“twice”)
 - Reach selected MEPs
 - Can be used by all, also in bilateral member state contacts



Decision shaping - access varies as to where we are in the process







Decision shaping: Best practice examples

- Some common features:
 - Started early in the process
 - Followed the process until final adoption
 - Used both bilateral-/EFTA track
 - Had both formal/informal contact



Best practice example: Food information

- 30/1-08: EC adopted proposal for Regulation on provision of food information to the consumers
- 30/10-08: Expert Group on Foodstuffs issued extensive EEA EFTA Comments
 - Sent to the Commission, EP Rapporteur, FR Presidency and Council Secretariat
 - Norway distributed them actively when in bilateral contact with EU Member States and stakeholders
- 03-09: Norway invited to Council WG on Foodstuffs to present the EEA EFTA position
- 12-09: Proposal is still being discussed in the Council Working Group and in the European Parliament



Other Best practice examples

- New European System of Financial Supervision
 - Closely followed by the EFTA States (dealt with in detail tomorrow)

- Examples shown in EFTA Bulletin “Decision shaping in the European Economic Area”
 - Reach
 - Goods Package
 - Open Method of Coordination



Advice for effective Decision Shaping

- Be active in the process from the beginning
- Prepare well for meetings
- Establish contacts with the Commission
- Establish contacts with experts from EU States
- Focus on quality rather than quantity
- Use the EFTA Secretariat as facilitator

↳ **These and others can be found in the EFTA Bulletin on Decision shaping**